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The Romance of Arkansas Methodism

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Certain romantic figures come to mind when one thinks of pioneer times in the South; the explorer and trapper with the familiar coon-skin cap, leather jacket and breeches; the Indian in his native habiliment; the wagon train bringing settlers to the West from the Carolinas, Virginia and Tennessee.

Among all these familiar types which played such a large part in the settlement of Arkansas, the circuit-rider has taken a firm place in history. The circuit-rider is not the exclusive historic property of any one faith and order. He represented many churches, but chiefly in the South, the Presbyterian, Baptist and Methodist.

These men were truly some of God's most noble creatures. No group of Christians since New Testament times have undergone such adverse circumstances, slander, calumny and hardship. In the Methodist Church the salaries of all conference members (ordained ministers) were equalized. Until 1800 the annual salary was \$64. In 1800 it was raised to the munificent sum of \$80 and in 1816 to \$100 per year. It should be added that this was paid "if they had it".

The Methodist circuit rider in the early days was usually a single man. No parsonages were provided and the constant travel and hardship made it almost impossible for him to maintain a family. His possessions were a horse, saddle and saddlebags, a change of linen, a few personal effects, his Bible and Discipline and Doctrines of the Methodist Church, published every four years since 1792. He was out of touch with his home base for months at a time and his "circuit" was of staggering proportions; often equal in area to an entire state. One of the earliest in Arkansas Territory was described as "beginning with the Missouri line south to mouth of White River, up Arkansas River to Fort Smith, thence up the line of the Indian lands to the Missouri line". And this was a relatively small circuit! *(1)

*(1) Source material for Arkansas Methodist history includes Horace Jewell's History of Arkansas Methodism, 1892; James A. Anderson's Centennial History of Arkansas Methodism, 1936; the Journals of the Arkansas, White River, Ouachita and Little Rock Conferences (the first imprints being done in the 1870's, with all previous Journals in long-hand); District and Quarterly Conference journals and local church registers. Very few of these early longhand journals are extant. There are a few in the Hendrix College archives. Some still belong to local churches and some to private collections.

It was in this manner and by the toil and devotion of these men that Methodism came to Arkansas. The first visit of a Methodist minister to Arkansas Territory was that made by William Patterson to Helena in 1809. He apparently was not given a charge and did not have an organized church. There is no record that he preached in Helena at all.

The first organized parishes west of the Mississippi were the Claiborne and Opelousas Circuits in Louisiana. The date was 1806. The first actual charge in Arkansas was the appointment of the Rev. Eli Lindsey to the Spring River Circuit in 1815. This appointment was made from the Tennessee Conference which met October 20 that year at Bethlehem Church in Wilson County. Lindsey's Circuit included all of northeast Arkansas. The church in the village of Jessup is named in his memory and a plaque was placed there by the North Arkansas Historical Commission a few years ago. *(2) At the close of his first year of ministry the pastor reported 22 members in all the churches of the circuit. The assignment was made through the Missouri District of the Tennessee Conference.

Eli Lindsey leaves one interesting story which was found years later in a personal letter, in which he tells of preaching in the village of Batesville. The men had stacked their flintlocks against the back wall and the service was in full progress when the sound of dogs barking furiously above them caused one of the stalwart laymen to rise from his seat and cry "Bar!" Without formal dismissal all the men of the congregation jumped up, seized their rifles and went off in pursuit of the prey. They soon came back, having disposed of the bear, and sat down to continue the worship. The pastor reported that he then led the people in a prayer thanking God "for women who could pray and men who could shoot."

In 1816 the Missouri Conference was organized and two charges assigned pastors in Arkansas Territory, the Spring River and the Hot Springs Circuits. The Arkansas District was formed in 1818. By 1831 the need was so great that Bishop Roberts appealed for volunteers to go into Arkansas from the Conference in Paris, Tennessee. Eight young men volunteered. The most prominent among them in later Arkansas history was John Harrell, who was later a missionary to the Indians and presiding elder of the Fayetteville District. His last home was on City Heights, Van Buren, and it is marked by a plaque erected by the North Arkansas Commission. Harrell left several letters describing conditions in northwest Arkansas in the 30's and 40's.

*(2) The North Arkansas History Commission has placed historical markers at five points: (1) Highway 62 at its junction with 45, 2 miles east of Lincoln, marking the first Annual Conference in Arkansas Territory, at Cane Hill in 1833; (2) Hendrix College, Conway, Ark., commemorating its origin in 1886 in Altus; (3) Highway 117 in Jessup, commemorating the Rev. Eli Lindsey, first assigned pastor in Arkansas Territory, 1816; (4) near Harrisburg, marking the home of the Rev. Isaac Brookfield, pastor to the Indians in Arkansas Territory, 1819. The Commission plans to erect several other markers in the future.

The first session of an Annual Conference held in Arkansas was conducted in October 1833 near Cane Hill. This was three years before the organization of the Arkansas Conference and it was a session of the Missouri Conference. Bishop Joshua Soule presided, having come by horseback from Tennessee. Two places are mentioned in the early records as site of the Conference, Mountain Spring and Salem Camp Ground. The old records do not identify the meeting place except to state that it was "near Boonsboro". We have been anxious for years to know the exact location of this historic assembly. I mentioned this, some time ago, to Mr. Fred McCuistion of Prairie Grove. He went to see Miss Eva Ann Tennant, the granddaughter of the Rev. Thomas Hardester Tennant, mentioned later in this paper. Miss Tennant is now 81 years old and recalls having seen her grandfather, who lived to the ripe age of 114 years. Mr. McCuistion learned the location of the 1833 Conference from her, and I went with him one lovely fall afternoon to search it out.

The spot is now known as Salem Springs. It is located $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of Highway 59 and northwest of Dutch Mills. A good gravel road runs west of the highway, leaving it about 2 miles north of Dutch Mills. As the main road crosses the creek, another turns north up a deep valley and the spring is located on the right of this road approximately a quarter of a mile distance. The site lies almost on the Oklahoma border.

The early camp ground was perfectly chosen as a site for large assemblies; with a fruitful spring still running free, a sizeable branch, a large flat area in the valley for camping. An enormous elm still shades part of the area, ancient enough to have been present for the historic meeting. The steep hill from whose foot the spring flows is a classic example of Ozark beauty, with a mass of oak, redbud, hard maple and dogwood. Heavy moss and fern cover the rocks above the spring. Someone long ago cut a channel in the rock to direct the flow of a spring higher up the bluff into the main spring. One may well imagine that the site itself gave dignity and inspiration to the spot and made it a place of worship to these early Christians. Here we can understand what Emerson meant when he said that the "groves were God's first temples."

Mr. Steve Bates of Fayetteville lived near Salem Springs when he was a boy and he recalls that the community was known as Sexton. It was a thriving town with a postoffice, eight stores and more than 100 homes in the valley. Today there are two or three homes. The spring was walled and in the pool fed by the spring, trout were kept. We can well imagine how beautiful it must have been. The park-like atmosphere of the lovely spot still stands out clearly amid the heavy growth. Mr. Bates told me he could remember seeing as many as four thousand people in the area for a picnic and religious service, many of them Indians.

On a bench of the mountain which lies to the west, the foundation stones of the school house are in evidence. There seems never to have been a church building at Salem Springs but the school was used for religious services of various denominations.

The first charge specifically in northwest Arkansas was the Washington Circuit, appearing first in the Journals of the year 1831. There had almost certainly been individual churches in northwest Arkansas prior to that.

The Arkansas Annual Conference was organized in Batesville on November 6, 1836, Bishop Robert Morris in the chair. The Bishop had brought six young ministers with him from the Tennessee Conference. Among them the most notable was Andrew Hunter, the stately Irishman who continued active in the church until the turn of the century. Six districts were laid out in the young Conference and the membership was reported as follows: Whites, 2,733; Colored, 559; Indian, 1,225.

Tragedy dogged the steps of the early pioneers and their lot was constantly one of danger and privation. The history of the church in the West is a record of quick illness and sudden death, burial on a lonely trail, and accident or even murder. Pneumonia, typhoid, consumption, and "brain fever" are most often mentioned. One group of Methodist ministers were riding by horseback through the Boston Mountains in the 1870's from Annual Conference. They were fired on from ambush and one of the men was killed. The reason for the attack was never known. Rev. William H. Bump left Fayetteville in 1847 for a trip to Little Rock and while descending the steps of a steamer on the Arkansas River, tripped and fell into the water and was drowned. One minister fell ill at the organizing conference of 1836 and died the next week. Juba Estabrook, pastor of the Fort Smith church, served faithfully during the cholera epidemic of July 1851 and finally fell victim to the disease himself.

The early preacher was, however, a rugged man and often fully able to cope with the conditions of frontier life. One of the requirements for the ministers in those days must certainly have been physical courage and strength. The story of the Rev. Cornelius McGuire has been passed around for many generations with various names attached but it actually occurred in Arkansas and is recorded in Jewell's History. This early preacher was warned of a caustic blacksmith whose shop stood beside the road. He was a man of powerful build and violent temper and he was especially allergic to preachers. It was his custom "to whip every preacher who came in front of his shop." Cornelius McGuire rode by one day and received the challenge of the rugged blacksmith. Without a word he descended from his horse and after a furious battle laid the blacksmith bleeding and unconscious in front of his shop. He mounted his horse and rode on.

In Anderson's History the story of Rev. John Harris's encounter with the "loiterers" at a grog shop is told. The preacher was greeted with these words by a group of men without the shop, "Good morning, stranger, take something to drink." Harris politely declined but they insisted. As they were moving in upon him, he made one desperate try by saying: "Gentlemen, this is a free country. You have a right under the laws to drink if you wish to do so but I am a free man and I have the right to decline. Now, in the name of our liberty, in the name of our fathers who fought for these liberties, I appeal to you. Will you force a free man to drink when he is conscientiously opposed to it?"

With this, a stalwart fellow stepped out, threw off his coat and with clenched fists said, "The first man who touches this stranger will have me to whip." He was an old Revolutionary soldier and the appeal in the name of the Revolutionary fathers stirred his patriotism to the defense of the itinerant.

When Signey H. Babcock was pastor in Fort Smith in the early 80's, the resident bishop was coming for a visit to his church. In order to make a good impression he bought a new stovepipe hat, but as he stopped by to visit John Harrell in Van Buren, the hat came to an early end. he was leaning over the well to draw water when the hat fell from his head into the water and was ruined. He had to borrow an old dilapidated head-piece to greet the bishop. All this provided good humor to the preachers for a long time to come.

One of the most phenomenal occurrences in the frontier church was the Great Awakening of 1811 and 1812 which resulted in the institution of a new assembly, the like of which had never been seen in Christian history, the camp meeting. A vigorous revival stirred the Presbyterians in Tennessee and Kentucky and rapidly spread to other denominations. The custom was established of choosing a site along a stream and next to a spring for a camp site. A sizable village rose up around a brush tabernacle and each family erected a "tent", actually a shack. Cooking was done in the open, behind each home, and people would come as far as 100 miles to attend this meeting. The hours of worship reflected their stronger character and the modern worshiper could doubtless not survive a day in an old camp meeting. Worship services were held at 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 3 p.m., and 7 p.m. Smaller prayer groups were interspersed. However, it was not all solemn and colorless. There were big dinners and organized hunts where the men secured game for the first "dinner on the ground."

In the Methodist church there was a lay office known as the exhorter. This office still exists but is rarely ever used. A license may be issued by any church to any layman fulfilling the requirements. The business of the exhorter was to make the appeal to sinners at the close of the sermon. I saw that done only once in my ministry at a little rural church in Pope County which I was visiting as district superintendent. Following my sermon the minister announced, "Brother Jones will now exhort", and Brother Jones proceeded to point out to the congregation that they should make some tangible evidence of their witness as result of my message. The results, I am afraid, were less than desirable.

The Civil War brought to the church in the South the same strife, division and hardship that all other societies knew. Forty-four Methodist preachers entered the Confederate service during the war, a total of about 30 per cent of all active ministers in the state. Twenty-four of these entered as chaplains and twenty in infantry units as officers and enlisted men. The chaplain had a rather unique relation to the Confederate Army in that he was not a commissioned officer. He was actually appointed to a unit by his church and paid by the church and not by the army. The usual custom, however, was for the commanding officer to extend an invitation to a favorite minister and he no doubt saw that the preacher to his regiment received the necessities.

There were many stirring revivals in the camps during the war and the ministry of the chaplains of the Confederate States Army was a noble and sacrificial one. Chaplain John H. Rice, Methodist minister in Helena, was attached to a regiment stationed near Batesville. In 1863 he was with a group of men surrounded by Union forces. As a Union cavalry officer rode up Rice threw up his arms in surrender. The officer refused to recognize his surrender and told him he had to die. He

asked for time to pray but was told, "It's too late to pray now." He was on his knees when the captain shot him with a pistol. This is not given as an instance of Northern cruelty or to stir ancient animosities; it is simply an illustration of what war does to people of all sides. There was brutality and evil in both armies as well as nobility and Christian character.

The Methodist Church in Little Rock was taken over by Northern Methodists in accordance with the infamous Ames-Stanton Order. The co-authors of this act were John Ames and Secretary of State Stanton. By it representatives of the Northern church were allowed to seize Southern church property and conduct their own organized churches. Rev. Robert F. Calburn was ousted from his Little Rock church and it was not until a year following the war that it was restored. It must be said that this order was not often applied but when it was, bitterness and tension naturally resulted.

Washington County became prominent in Arkansas church history at a very early date and it seems apparent that Washington County Circuit was one of the strongest charges in the state. Fayetteville was host to the Arkansas Conference first in 1839 and since that date the Conference has met here many times -- in 1850, 1869, 1877, 1887, 1896, 1910, 1924, 1934, and 1953.

At the first appearance in the Journal of the Conference, the circuit was assigned to the Rev. John Kelley; the year was 1831. Two hundred and fifty members were reported, which indicates that churches had existed prior to the organization of the circuit. They were probably part of some other circuit and were set off as a distinct charge in 1831.

In 1842 the name of the circuit was changed to Fayetteville and in 1857 the charge became a station. That is to say that Fayetteville Church supported a full-time minister. The Central Methodist Church in Fayetteville, then, is now in its 125th year of continuous service and organization, and this year will celebrate its centennial as a station charge. Plans are being made in the church now to celebrate the 125th anniversary next summer with a week of services and a historical pageant. This will be designated as the 125th anniversary celebration since the charge was organized in the late fall of 1831.

In 1932 the centennial of the church was celebrated with a pageant presented in the Chi Omega Greek Theater on the campus of the University of Arkansas and a booklet was prepared by the pastor, Rev. William Sherman, recounting the history of the church. There are few parishes in the state of Arkansas that are older in continuous service than the Fayetteville church and, indeed, it ranks among the first west of the Mississippi. A few churches in Louisiana and Missouri date from the 1810's and 1820's.

The story of the Organization of the Fayetteville Church has been told and presented in so many other places that we will not dwell on it in detail here. Its beginnings were similar to so many other frontier community churches. In 1831 Mr. Lodowick Brodie invited a group of Methodists whose home churches no doubt were in Tennessee or the Carolinas, to meet in his house for the purpose of organizing a church.

The charter members were: Mr. and Mrs. Brodie, Martin Frazor, Dr. and Mrs. Adam Clark, Mr. and Mrs. David Reise, Mr. and Mrs. John Skelton, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Anthony and a Mr. Avard. Mr. Brodie gave the lot for the construction of a church, which was not built until 1836. This lot is on West Center Street and now serves as a parking area west of the Earle Brown Feed Store. No description of the building is extant but it was almost certainly of log construction. It was burned in 1863. I have never been able to discover the circumstances of its destruction but it seems apparent that it must have been a part of the action of war in which most of the buildings about the square were destroyed either by retreating Confederate troops or by Federal armies.

In 1868 a small brick church was built on the same lot. Pictures of this building are in existence and one appeared in the centennial program of 1932. Some residents of Fayetteville can still recall attending services and Sunday School there, since the building was used as a church until 1899. For many years following that, it served as an apple storage house and a blacksmith shop and eventually was pulled down.

Bishop Wightman described a visit to Fayetteville and northwest Arkansas which he made in 1872. It is of such interest to persons concerned with northwest Arkansas history that it is quoted here in full.

"The drive from Fort Gibson to Okmulgee and back, was in the double-seated buggy of my old friend, Brother Ewing, to whose kind attentions and skillful driving I am under special obligations. The drive from Park Hill, near Tahlequah, to the Arkansas line, was rough and hard, as we were out of the prairies, and the roads in the Indian country are seldom worked. I was struck with the singular disintegration of the quartz rocks on the mountain ridges all along this road. It seems as though volcanic or chemical action had broken up into innumerable small fragments the masses of rocks. These lie on the slopes of the ridges, a level and smooth coating of stone, multitudinous as the sands of the sea-shore. They evidently have never been subjected to the grinding action of the sea.

"I found an appointment waiting for me at Boonsboro, the night after reaching Arkansas. In this pleasant little town there is a new brick Methodist church, and a good female academy under the charge of Prof. Welch, a local preacher and an accomplished instructor. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church was politely tendered by its pastor, as it was supposed that ours would hardly hold the congregation. There I preached to an assembly, the size of which surprised me. But the weather was delightful, the moon at the full, and the surrounding country populous. I preached the next day at Viney Grove, some ten miles on. These two appointments formed the pastoral charge of my young friend, the Rev. Jerome Haralson, whose acquaintance I formed at Boonsboro, and the quality of whose horses I tried then as the prelude to the 350 miles of subsequent travel along which they were to carry us. I was now in Washington County, far up in the northwest of Arkansas. But this county, and its neighbor, Benton, I found to be very choice bits of the grand far-off West. A heavy population, industrious, stirring, thriving, covers the soil, which is highly productive. No cotton grows there, and consequently fences and outbuildings are in fine repair; houses are painted, corn and oats are plentiful, stock fat, and the apple orchards are magnificent. The apple grown in these two counties is the boast of everybody.

"The next Sunday I spent in the bright, picturesque Town of Fayetteville, finding a pleasant home in the house of Brother Stone. A handsome brick church had just been completed - seats and pulpit excepted. These were extemporized for the occasion, and I preached in the new church, but did not dedicate it. On Monday night and Tuesday there were of course appointments strung along my road to Bentonville, the seat of the Arkansas Conference. They understand in the country how to get out of a Bishop all that is in him. We dined on Tuesday with Gen. Pearce, after which I preached near by. The general took me over his apple orchard, and pointed out twenty varieties of that fruit, each in highest perfection. At his table I found the only game I tasted in the whole trip -- wild ducks. I had been rather hoping I should see bear meat and venison, and wild turkey in abundance, here and there. But I was mistaken; and what difference does it make now? The fare everywhere was good and well-cooked; constant riding in the open air gives one a fine edge of appetite, and your friends are glad to see you eat heartily.

"And now on to Bentonville. The country is as level as a plain; but we are on a mountain plateau, not very far from the termination of the grand Ozark range. My quarters are at the house of Judge Ellis, and the session is held in the Methodist Church, a new and handsome brick building, which, by the way, I dedicated on Sunday. The religious exercises of the occasion were full of interest. Several persons found peace with God the first night of the Conference; and throughout crowds hung with profound attention upon the word preached. The business of the session went on without hindrance, and in the spirit of work and love. Three or four valuable men were received by transfer. The independence of one of these I admired; he had come from the Western Conference in his own wagon, bringing his wife and children and household goods with him, camping out at night, and ready for the work assigned him. He drove up to the church while the Conference was in session, and took up his quarters in the rear of the building. With entire unanimity, and even enthusiasm, the Conference approved the design and plan of the Central University and selected four Trustees to represent them in the Board. They also contributed liberally to the support of the institution.

"The business of the Conference all completed, at the close of a powerful sermon by Brother W., the appointments were read out.

"Look out for Boston Mountain! had been said to me time and again. I had been forewarned that in crossing the state of Arkansas, from its northwest extremity to Augusta on White River, I should have abundance of rough work! But what is the use of crossing river, or mountains either, until you come to them? The seat which I occupied alongside my friend Haralson, and behind his superb horses, for the next eight days, not counting Sunday, was just as pleasant as the one I had three years ago by the side of my friend Veal in West Texas. Both were delightful drives. We had no accident, no detention, no solicitude. The weather, a few hours excepted, was bright and enjoyable. The grand forests of Arkansas had put on their gorgeous autumnal livery. Mountain peaks were in view most of the time. We stopped with pleasant people in comfortable houses at night. And what more could a traveler want? As for the dreaded Boston Mountain, I had got to the top of the pass, supposing we were just beginning the ascent. But then we were on the Cove Creek route, the lowest and best crossing of the Ozark range."

In 1899 a lot was purchased on Dickson Street and a new church constructed under the leadership of the Rev. Henry Hanesworth. This building was razed in 1953 and a new Wesley Hall built on the site. The new church was constructed on lots to the west. Two large marble plaques containing the names and years of service of the ministers up to 1907 have been preserved and will be placed in the new church building. The corner stone of the old building stands under the portecochere.

The list of ministers since the organization reveals that in the first years of the church's history the tenure was rarely over one year for each pastor. Pleasant Tackett served the Washington Circuit for two years, 1829-1830, but it was not until 1843 that another two-year pastorate is recorded. The first four-year pastorate was that of Rev. James A. Anderson beginning in 1892. From that time until Rev. Paul V. Galloway's assignment, no pastor remained longer than four years. Mr. Galloway and Rev. D. L. Dykes Jr. served for five and seven years respectively. This trend is observed over all of Methodism, where longer pastorates are the rule. In the early Methodist church it was believed that a minister should move every year and in some cases in six months. This is a difficult thing for modern church people to understand but apparently the church fathers believed that no man should become attached to one group of people too strongly. Moving, also, was a simple matter, since most ministers were unmarried and it involved nothing more serious than packing their saddlebags and starting out for their new charges. It is part of the complexities of our society that a modern minister faces a very difficult chore when he is called upon to move.

The old records of the Central Methodist Church have been poorly kept and nothing older than 1866 is to be found in the church offices. This first journal begins with the return of the Confederate soldiers in the winter of 1866 and it is actually a Quarterly Conference Journal of the Fayetteville District. It is written in longhand and entries are still legible. It tells a story of extreme privation of the truly genuine and noble men and women who carried the load of rebuilding a stricken society. Other journals since that date are to be found in the church office. The official records of a local Methodist church are in every case the Quarterly Conference Journals. Other early books are Sunday School records and minutes of the Board of Stewards.

In an aside, let me relate an entry I found in some of the early minutes of the Harrison, Arkansas, Methodist Church which shows the forthright manner in which our fathers dealt with a delicate situation. Boldly on the minutes is spread the story of a long forgotten Mr. Smith who apparently was in arrears in his church contribution. The Board of Stewards unanimously passed a resolution requesting that Brother Smith be given one more opportunity to contribute to the pastor's salary or withdraw from the church.

A lovely communion set consisting of the pitcher and two chalices is still cherished by the church. The date of their purchase is now known but the use of the single chalice in communion was abandoned about 1905 in Methodism, which means that the set must be older than that.

The Methodist Church in Arkansas is celebrating now its 140th anniversary and the records of its ministry extend beyond the time when Arkansas was set apart as a territory. In this time, of course, there have been many changes and much progress. At the Arkansas Conference of 1840 the following benevolences (that is, missionary giving) were reported -- the total amount for missions, Bible school and "worn out preachers" was \$304.30. The latter term was generally employed even until recent times to designate the retired minister. I can remember the term being used often when I was a boy although the official use was always "superannuated". To contrast those early beginnings with the ways and work of the church today is but to see one segment of the progress made in Arkansas among all churches and in every area of life.

One of the most interesting records of the church in Washington County is the Thomas Hardister Tennant story. Born in Virginia in 1771, Thomas Tennant was licensed as a minister in the Methodist Church at a very early age and eventually assigned in 1818 to the Arkansas Circuit. Somewhere in the 1830's he married Christine Hacker. This woman owned one male slave. A Methodist minister was not permitted to hold slaves and was required to free them if he secured any through marriage or inheritance. Apparently both Thomas and his wife were willing to free this slave except for the fact that he was an ugly and unruly character who had given constant trouble and the laws of the state of Arkansas required that the owner give personal bond for the good behavior of a freedman. This Tennant did not think he could do and so retained the slave.

In those days there was a presiding elder in the Arkansas District named Jesse Haile who was a rabid abolitionist. Scattered accounts of the records showed that he was continually agitating local situations, much to the embarrassment of the Methodist Church. This is not to imply that he was not right in his convictions but rather that he apparently was unreasonable or often insistent in his demands. Haile was Tennant's presiding elder and he demanded that he free the slave. Explanation was to no avail and Tennant was either expelled or withdrew from the Conference.

The interesting thing about this case is that it is strangely similar to that of Bishop Joseph O. Andrew, which resulted in the division of the church, South and North. Bishop Andrew was married to a woman who owned slaves and he was unable to free them immediately. When the General Conference of 1844 met at Baltimore an effort was made by some northern clergymen to remove the Bishop from office. The Southern men objected so strongly that even though a compromise seemed possible, they withdrew and formed the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Tennant lived to be 114 years of age. He died in October 1885 and is buried in Bethesda Cemetery in the western part of Washington County. His picture appears in Anderson's story of Arkansas Methodism and his descendants are living in the county still.

One of the most important works done by the church in the early history of the territory and state was in the education of the young. The fathers apparently saw the need very early and as early as 1844 a Conference resolution was passed to erect two seminaries, one for males and one for females. This was never done, but some academies were es-

tablished over the Conference before the Civil War. These were located at Tulip, Wallace, Bluff Springs, Crawford, Camden, Arkadelphia and Batesville. Soulesbury Institution was organized in 1849 at Batesville and ceased operation in 1861. A stately old frame building erected in the 1850's housed the institution and is still standing on Water Street directly across from the Methodist parsonage. It has been the home of the Glenn family for many years. After the war and before the state took over public education, the Methodist Church built a number of additional high schools, usually known as academies. Among them were those at Valley Springs, Yellville, Imboden, Searcy, Stuttgart, Gentry, Prairie Grove, Mena and Booneville. Quitman College was operated by the church from 1870 to 1896.

In 1883 the Rev. I. L. Burrow established an institution at Altus. It was taken over by the Methodist Church in 1886 and moved to Conway in 1890 to become Hendrix College. Galloway College was formed in 1888 at Searcy, and Henderson-Brown in 1891 at Arkadelphia. The latter two have since been abandoned and merged with Hendrix College. For many years these two schools rendered real service to the state and have given a sizable portion of the leadership of the state for a number of years.

The past, it has been said, is prologue. Each generation is not a separate unit unrelated to the past or future. We are all bound intimately together. Our status depends heavily on the groundwork laid by our fathers and the sober thought is that future generations shall surely lean upon us. We do not work nor build for our own generation but for those which follow. Perhaps a good maxim for the church, as well as all of society, would be: "Honor the past — make it possible for the future to honor us." We have every cause to be grateful for the brave and good men and women who laid the foundation upon which we build. We have even greater cause to seek to minister to the future as our forebears did to us.

We come unto our fathers' God,
 Their Rock is our salvation;
 Th' eternal arms, their dear abode,
 We make our habitation;
 We bring Thee, Lord, the praise they brought,
 We seek Thee as Thy saints have sought
 In every generation.

Pastors who have served Central Methodist Church, Fayetteville

Washington Circuit

James Bankston, 1827
 John Henry, 1828
 Pleasant Tackett, 1829-30
 John Kelley, 1831
 Allen M. Scott, 1832
 Alvin Baird, 1832
 William Duke, 1833
 J. L. Goald, 1833
 H. G. Joplin, 1834

John Harrell, 1835
 W. H. Bump, 1836
 Hiram Gearing, 1837
 James B. Annis, 1838
 Andrew Hunter, 1839
 James Morris, 1839
 Jacob Custer, 1840
 William A. Cobb, 1840
 William T. Anderson, 1841
 R. W. Cardwell, 1841

Fayetteville Circuit

S. Carlisle, 1842
 H. Hubbard, 1842
 Henry C. Boyers, 1843-44
 Alexander Avery, 1845
 Thomas Stanford, 1846-47
 Lewis Marshall, 1847

R. M. Morgan, 1849-50
 M. C. Manley, 1850
 L. P. Lively, 1851
 Young Ewing, 1852-53
 W. T. Thornberry, 1854-55
 J. S. McCarver, 1856

Fayetteville Station

John Rhyne, 1857
 George A. Shaeffer, 1858
 R. W. Hammett, 1859
 Thomas Stanford, 1860-62
 W. M. Robbins, 1865
 Harvey M. Granade, 1866-67
 Jordan Banks, 1868
 E. J. Daune, 1869
 Jerome Haralson, 1870
 S. D. Gaines, 1871
 T. Wainwright, 1872
 J. J. Roberts, 1873-74
 S. A. Mason, 1875
 R. S. Hunter, 1876-77
 F. A. Jeffett, 1878-79
 George W. Hill, 1880
 Thos. J. Reynolds, 1881-82
 William Penn, 1883-84
 M. E. Butt, 1885
 G. W. Evans, 1886
 B. H. Greathouse, 1887-89
 E. A. Tabor, 1890

S. Anderson, 1889-91
 James A. Anderson, 1892-95
 H. Hanesworth, 1896-99
 E. R. Steel, 1900-03
 P. C. Fletcher, 1904-07
 J. W. Herring, 1908-09
 M. N. Waldrip, 1910-13
 L. M. Broyles, 1914
 W. E. Broggs, 1915-16
 A. Chappelle, 1916-18
 H. E. Wheeler, 1919
 J. A. Womack, 1920-22
 H. L. Wade, 1923-26
 H. K. Morehead, 1927
 William Sherman, 1928-1931
 Warren Johnson, 1932-36
 J. M. Workman, 1936-40
 H. H. Griffin, 1940-41
 Conner Morehead, 1941
 L. M. Starkey, 1941-43
 Paul Galloway, 1943-48
 D. L. Dykes, Jr., 1948-55
 Robert E. L. Bearden, 1955 -

Arkansas Postal Items Are Scarce

Our readers may be interested to learn that there is a nation-wide interest on the part of stamp collectors in any Arkansas postal cancellations before 1836 and in Arkansas Confederate bank notes and "stamp money". The January 5, 1957 issue of STAMPS (153 Waverly Place, New York 14, N.Y.) contained an article on the discovery ("Two New Ones Located") of Confederate stamp money issued by the postmasters at Fort Smith and Little Rock. The article says: "Confederate postal items identified in any way with Arkansas are the scarcest of those of all the Confederate States."

This same issue carries a report of a recent New York stamp auction at which a stampless (Territorial) envelope postmarked "Little Rock" brought \$152 and another envelope postmarked "Claiborne, A.T." sold for \$120. Collectors and dealers expect the interest in Confederate items to increase rapidly from now until 1961 -- the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War.

The Henry Family Records

Installment III

(Editor's note: The Henrys who settled in the Oxford Bend section of our county over 120 years ago carried on a considerable correspondence, especially with relatives and friends in Tennessee. Letters that James and Luvica Henry received were kept by them and by succeeding generations of this pioneer family and are now in the possession of Mrs. Lena Langford of Fayetteville who has made them available to our Society. We have selected some of the more interesting letters for publication in this issue of FLASHBACK. Among these are two letters written from the Republic of Texas and one written from Mexico during the war with Mexico. This last letter is the only known letter written from the Mexican war by a member of Captain Enyart's company of Washington County soldiers. -- WJL)

Texas Nacogdoches County March 15, 1845

Dear brothers

this is to let you now that we are all well I hav many things to write but I cannot write all we all got along very well and had good luck as could be expected I hav settled on some of the same land that John Brandon lives on and I think that I hav got the best place that you ever saw and can git it for 50 cent per acre I hav got 3 as good springs as ever you saw in any contry and if you will come I will improve you a place and sav it for you. Times is hard hear but I think that their is a plenty for all corn is 1.00 a bushel pork is 3 dollars a hundred I have bin hear 4 weeks this day and Perry and me has maid 4,000 rails at 50 cents and can git as many as we will make at price I have not don any thing yet but bilt a house I have a little job of rails and then I expect to put in six or seven acres of corn If I had a set of tools I could doo well but their is now chance to git them now and I will farm it till I can git them now if you come I want you to git me a set of tools and bring them and I will pay you for them if you doo not come and Lindley or ----- comes git them to bring them I want Samuel to come and if he comes or you either you bring mules shore for they will sell much the best

if Samuel comes I want him to git me a hand saw and bring it with him James you need not fear about this a beein a good contry for it is the best you ever saw and the old settlers sais it is as healthy as any in the world and I believe it now James I want you to tell mr Moltby that he had better come hear it is the easiest place to git along that ever he saw and he can doo well hear James if you come git you a good set of plows and hoes and matics and bee shore to if any body comes send me a good saw and one or too chisels So now I must close in short for I hav not got time to write

Louisa you must come hear for it a mutch better place than whear you liv Elizabeth is better in helth than she has bin in 2 years and is well pleased hear and sais she would not bee back in Arkansas for nothing so no more at present

this Territorie of Nacogdoches County

your -----

Isaac R. Henry

Republic of Texas Rusk County
July 19th 1845

Dear brother

this is to let you now that I am well at present hoping these lines may find you all the same. I am a living in Henderson the County seat of Rusk County and has got me a sett of tools and is a dooing a good bisness here. I got here the first of April and I think I shall clear about Six hundred dollars in one year. You may say to them smiths in Fayetteville that will beet them all this year. their is now smith hear but me and I am crowded all the time. tell old Crim if he will come hear and work with me I will give him the best chance ever he had hear is a chance now if Samuel is in your country tell him that their is a chance to make a fortun here and that rite off and not to stay now is the time to come and not wait prospects is good prices hie now is his time not delay I believe that I can make a fortune in 5 years hear times has bin hard but is now good Crops is good and plenty of rain is hard here now and times is flattering here Com and look for your self James I want you to write to me and let me now how you all are and what you are a dooing and all about maers and thing. You can git as good land here as ever you saw for 100 dollar a acre. water is as good here as it is their and it is as healthy as their. Come and see for your self. Mr. Key cant wait now longer I must close in short so no more at present.

Isaac Henry

to James Henry
and all inquiring persons

(Above is a folded letter addressed

"to Mr. James Henry Fayetteville Washington County Arks")

Capt. Enyart's Company
Mier, Mexico, February 12th, 1848

Dear Cousins and friends

I again take my pen up to drop you a few lines to let you heare from me once moore though I cannot heare from you or at least I do not. I am in as good health as ever I was in my life hoping these lines to reach you in the same condition. I hav nothing of interest to rite moore than we hav no prospect of peace shortly as we did think when we left home. I feare it will be a mary a warm day and dry one be fore peace is made with Mexico all though she is whiped but still wont make peace. I think if she does not make peace shortly that she will be in a state of starvation for the forage is to come of them now from this time forward and I do not think it will take long to get all the forage eat up that is on this line and when that is gon she must actually suffer food and with the farms they have it is pretty nigh all they can do to make a suport with all they can make they are the porest people in the world to farm

But we are not all the company that is in for During the war. The other companys say that they will go home at the end of their twelve mon., that it is unconstitutional to keep volunteers over twelve months at any one time the Capt of some of the comp has rote home to some of the best lawyers

And they hav rote to them to come at the end of their twelve months. There is no law to keep any longer and if they go I think maby so we will get to go to but I think it doubtful wheather any of us goes or not un less we do as seven of them did do on the twelfth of last month in a bought a half hour after they was paid off they gathered up and went off in open day light. We sean them start off but did not expect sutch a thing. One of them was John Pollock and two from Missouri by the (name) of Cox and two from the Nation and two from Madison Co. one by the name of Sizemore and the other by the (name) of Westly Mooreland. We heard of them in Texas going on as discharged teamsters and if we hav to stay heare longer than twelve months theire will be a good many that will go home in the same way if we ar not discharge at the end of our twelve months I beleave that theire will so many go that it will brake up the comp.

Theire was two of our Boys that died in last month A. J. Redic and John Hodges. They both died with fever. The balance of the camp is in tolerable good health the presant. I think the small pox is a bought to be stop. Theire has been no new cases lately among the Dragoons so I would think that they was stoped or at lest I hope so. We hav had no rain since last Oct-un till in the latter part of last month

I was up at Monterey then with out a tent and I thought it would never quit. The watter run through our blankets and all so under us and when we got up we felt as if we had don you no what.

It is nough to make a brave mans hart quake to sea the battel of Monterey whear the balls has lodged in the wall of the houses. A many a brave Boy has fallen theire to rise no moore untill the day of judgment. I must shortly come to a close. I want you to rite to as often as you can. I would be glad to get a letter once a week. When you rite direct your letter to me Arkansas Cavelry Capt Enyarts com, Mier, Mexico.

So nothing more at presant but remain

Your affectionat cousin un till death
James Henry

The Flag of Pat Cleburne Camp UCV

The red, white and blue battleflag of Pat Cleburne Camp, No. 216, U.C.V., provides a colorful sight to one entering the museum of the Arkansas History Commission in the Old State House at Little Rock. This flag was originally made and given by the Southern Memorial Association of Fayetteville to the Confederate Veterans of Pat Cleburne Camp. When, in 1925, the Camp met for the last time and disbanded, the colorful old flag, for more than 50 years used in all parades, decoration days, and other functions of the Camp, was returned to the Southern Memorial Association. The remaining members of this Camp at the time were W.J.Mount, Charles Vance, L.L.Kantz, A.H.Norman, P.G.Freiley, P.F.Davidson, J.M.Kinnibrugh and A.B. (Gus) Lewis. For years Pollie Skelton Logan (Mrs.T.M.) was the custodian of this old flag. After her death, its future was so uncertain that it was framed and given to the History Commission where it stands on the floor just as one enters the door. -- R.R.L.

Claims for Pensions Filed in Washington County
by Soldiers of the War of 1812 or Nearest of Kin

Mary Alberty (John Alberty); 84 years of age in 1875
 Phillip Babb; 84 years of age in 1872
 John Brown; 79 years of age in 1872
 Martha Bryant (Joseph Bryant); 80 years of age in 1879
 John Cannon; P.O. Fayetteville
 David Carroll
 Sylvanus Cartwright; lived at Mountainburg, Crawford County
 Elizabeth Cline (George Cline); 77 years of age in 1871
 Mary David; 76 years of age in 1871
 Margaret Drake (James Drake); 79 years of age in 1878
 Catharine Fine (William Fine); 78 years of age in 1871
 Mary Fletcher (Robert Fletcher)
 Jane R. Freshour (Henry Freshour); 80 years of age in 1878
 Michael Ghormley; 80 years of age in 1873; P.O. Evansville
 Henry Gregg; 79 years of age in 1871; P.O. Fayetteville
 John Harding; from New York; P.O. Cincinnati
 Patsy Harnage (William Harnage); 63 years of age in 1877
 Jane C. Hawkins (Martin L. Hawkins); 72 years of age in 1878
 Hannah Holt (John Holt); 77 years of age in 1875
 Nancy Hulse (Abraham Hulse); 81 years of age in 1878
 Syntha Ish (John Ish); 78 years of age in 1878
 Jacob Johnson; p.o. Tahlequah, I.T.
 Thomas Leach; 82 years of age in 1871
 John Leverton; 80 years of age in 1871; P.O. Fayetteville
 Benjamin Linden; 92 years of age in 1871
 Sally Mabry (James Mabry); 79 years of age in 1874; P.O. Cincinnati
 Polly Miller (John Miller); 80 years of age in 1879; Fayetteville
 Mary Ann Mitchell (James Mitchell); 72 years of age in 1878
 Sarah Montgomery (John Montgomery); 78 years of age in 1878
 James McGlove; from New York; P.O. Fayetteville
 Ros. S. McPherson (Isaac McPherson); P.O. Farmington
 Daniel Owen (Miss Sarah A. Duncan); P.O. Billingsley
 Elizabeth Parks (Robert Parks); from Lincoln Co., Tennessee
 Sarah Pettigrew (Geo. A. Pettigrew); 79 years of age in 1878
 Elizabeth Phillips; 76 years of age in 1871; Fayetteville
 Andrew Pierce; claim for back pay and bounty filed in 1871
 John Rosser; 82 years of age in 1875
 Mariah Rutherford (Joseph Rutherford); 78 years of age in 1878
 Casania Skelton (Ralph Skelton); 64 years of age in 1878
 Betsy Turkey (Standing Turkey); 90 years of age in 1875
 Charlotte Vicory (Henry Vicory); 82 years of age in 1875
 William Walters; 77 years of age in 1871; P.O. Fayetteville
 Polly Weaver (Benjamin Weaver); P.O. Cincinnati
 William Wolf; 90 years of age in 1871; P.O. Fayetteville
 Martha J. Worley (dau. of Elijah Hood); P.O. Boonsboro
 Nicholas Yates; 80 years of age in 1871; P.O. Fayetteville
 Nathan M. Young (Mahala); 76 years of age in 1871; Fayetteville
 Mahala C. Young (Nathan M. Young); 47 years of age in 1878

The Washington County Historical Society would like to have information about each of these persons filing a claim for a pension, whether a veteran or a widow of a veteran of the War of 1812. All of the above applications were filed through the office of George W.M. Reed, who operated a pensions claim office in Fayetteville for many years. In making out the application for a pension, Mr. Reed inserted many items of interest, which will appear in future issues of FLASHBACK.

Civil War Veteran's Letter

(The following letter was written by Sgt. J.H.Sisson of Co. D, 10th Mo. Cavalry, CSA, to his daughter "Mamie" (Mrs. S.L. Allen of Merwin, Mo.). She is a sister of Dr.J.L.Sisson of Fayetteville, retired dentist. Dr.Sisson and Mrs.Allen are two of the Sergeant's ten children.

After a stay in Richmond as a prisoner of war, Sergeant Sisson was transferred to a camp in Alabama. While at the latter place a rider announced the end of the war and it was here that he received his discharge. During the year 1865 he worked on a farm in eastern Arkansas; his family in Missouri did not receive knowledge of his whereabouts and believed he had been killed in one of the battles in which he participated. Mr.Sisson returned to his home in Henry County, Mo., in the spring of 1866, and it was here that he was married to Miss Margaret Poage in 1870.

Sergeant Sisson wrote the letter some two years before his death. A copy was made by Dr. Sisson last summer while visiting in Missouri and given to the WCHS for use in FLASHBACK. -- T.C.F.)

Butler, Mo., Oct. 23rd, 1906

My Dear Mamie:-

I received your good letter yesterday and was glad to hear from you.

I have not received my tickets or money yet, but I have a due bill for them. I don't get tickets but a Special Pass which is about the same thing. No, I am not going, I want to sell the tickets and have them issued in their name and who ever I sell to. If they should be issued in my name and the conductor find it out, he would take up the ticket and make them pay the cash.

(The "special pass" referred to was for railroad passage to a reunion of United Confederate Veterans. As the Sergeant was unable to attend, he evidently tried to sell the "passes" to someone who could attend. -- T.C.F.)

I was in Company "D", 10th Mo. Cavalry, C.S.A., with Gen'l Marmaduke during the war.

I was first with Col. Cummins Command in Bates County (Mo.). Mose Sevier was my Captain. That was in the State Guards, called out by Gov. Jackson, to defend our homes and country against the thieving bands from Kansas, or "Jay-hawkers". That was in 1861.

I participated in the Battle of Lexington, Mo., served my time out and was honorably discharged at Springfield, Mo., in the winter of 1861-62. Enlisted in the Confederate Army in 1862 for 3 years or during the war. Eaf. Alison was my Captain and Jackman was the Colonel.

We were in the Lone Jack fight and we whipped them to a finish there as we did at the Battle of Lexington, where they all surrendered.

We moved south where Jackman's Command was dismounted and put in the infantry, and I left them and joined a Cavalry Co., under Capt. Frazier who lived near Springfield, and we were attached to Col. Emmett McDonald's Regiment.

We were in several Cove Creek fights, Cane Hill fight, and the Battle of Prairie Grove. That was in the fall of 1862.

Col. McDonald was killed in the fight at Hartsville below Springfield that winter and the Regiment was known after that as Col. Young's Battalion until sometime in 1863. Col. Lawder had gathered up two companies of the Vicksburg soldiers who had come across from Vicksburg after the surrender of that place. He and Col. Young united their forces which made the 10th Mo. Cavalry with Col. Lawder as Colonel and Col. Young as Lieut.-Col. Col. Bennett was the Major.

1863 was the fighting year for our command. We fought Gen'l Steele all around Little Rock and in his raid from there to Camden, Ark., and there we received re-enforcements from Gen. Price's army and we turned on Steele and whipped the life out of him and he went flying back north. We fought for several weeks nearly every day. The Battle of Helena came off that year, and the raid to Cape Girardeau where we were engaged in several hard fights.

In 1864 the whole Cavalry force of Gen. Price's army made the memorable raid into Missouri and we whipped every thing before us until we got to Kansas City. The first fight was at Pilot Knob. We charged them in their breast-works but we failed to dislodge them. Major Bennett was mortally wounded. I helped to carry him off the battle field after dark. Next morning we prepared to renew the attack, but the Feds blew up their magazine and ran for their lives and we never overtook them.

We fought the forces at Jefferson City, Lamar River, California, Boonville, and at Glasgow, where they all surrendered.

I left the army at Glasgow and went with Capt. John Withers into North Missouri to raise a company, and we never got back to my old command as I was captured and taken to Rock Island, Ill. I was a prisoner about six months and I went on exchange via Baltimore, took a ship around on Chesapeake Bay and up the James River to Richmond, Va. General Lee was still holding Richmond against the combined forces of Gen. Grant's army.

I forgot to state, in the fall of 1862 my father and uncle came down to Arkansas with Capt. Hancock's Company and they were attached to our regiment. As I wanted to be with my father I exchanged places with a man from Co. B to Co. D, and Dick Hancock was Capt. and Tom Campbell was 1st Lieut., Pete Cole (Coe?) was 2nd Lieut., and Frank Campbell was 3rd Lieut. After the Battle of Prairie Grove, Hancock appointed me Corporal and I was promoted, too, from time to time until I was 2nd Sergeant. I was in command of squads of men several times and never was demoralized or stumped.

I am glad you are interested enough to write for my Co. and Regiment. You may not have wanted so much but I thought I would give you some of the particulars.

Lovingly, your Father,
J. H. Sisson

Reprint Edition of Baxter

The Press-Argus of Van Buren (Hugh Park) is planning to put out a reprint of Baxter's "PEA RIDGE AND PRAIRIE GROVE", which was first published in 1864.

With General Blunt at Prairie Grove

(Editor's note: Through the courtesy of F.P. Rose of Rogers, we are able to present the following account of the battle of Prairie Grove as reported by a Union veteran of the battle. Mr. Rose discovered the account while looking through his file of some 50 copies of The National Tribune, official publication of the G.A.R. This account appeared in the Sept. 8, 1927 issue. -- WJL)

BLUNT AT PRAIRIE GROVE Hindman Demanded Blunt's Surrender But Blunt Was Not Built That Way

Editor, National Tribune: I am one of the boys who helped to save Blunt's army at Kanes Hill, Arkansas. I was in Co. C, 7th Mo. Cav. We were in southwestern Missouri -- Totten's and Herron's Brigades, about 6,000 -- when we got orders to report to Gen. Blunt at Kanes Hill, 15 miles from Fayetteville, Ark.

We marched two days and nights on a forced march and reached the ground where the Battle of Prairie Grove was fought on Dec. 7, 1862.

Just before daylight, alongside of a cornfield, we halted, dismounted, and got corn and fed our horses. I was at the head of my company and my company was at the head of the regiment.

There the boys sighted a hog, and a few of my company drew their sabers and chased the hog down the road ahead of the regiment. To their surprise they ran right into the Confederate infantry advance. The Johnnies fired at them but missed, and the boys came back pellmell. "To horse!" was sounded and we mounted and rode into line. By this time it was nearly daylight, and we looked south and beheld an immense army in solid mass, not a quarter of a mile away, moving slowly toward us.

We looked to our left and saw nearly 2,000 Confederate cavalry marching double quick by fours, to get in our rear, and cut us off from our infantry, and we had this high stake-and-rider fence on our right.

Something had to be done right away. In getting past that cavalry, we lost our commander and Capt. Billie McKee, my uncle. Quite a few were taken prisoners. When the head of our regiment reached our infantry, we had no commander; they were in bad shape.

The infantry laughed at them. The boys told them they would find plenty of "Johnnies" back there; that they were glad to get away alive.

The infantry came back with, "They are the boys we are hunting." In less than an hour they got what they wanted, and the fight was kept up all day long; no let-up until pitch dark.

Gen. Blunt came to us between 3 and 4 o'clock with about 6,000 men. We then had about 12,000 men. The Johnnies must have had over 23,000. They fought well.

When the last shot was fired it was as still as death, not a word spoken, not a leaf moved. It just sounded like we were in a new world.

Gen. Hindman was commanding the Confederate army. He came with a white flag, with escort and bodyguard, to our lines and called for Blunt.

Blunt was blunt by name and blunt by nature. He showed up quick. Hindman bid him "Good eve" and told him he claimed the battle ground. Blunt ripped out an oath and told him that he would fight him right then himself, or he would fight him in 15 minutes with his army.

Hindman told him that if he would give him till 10 o'clock the next morning, he would decide whether he would renew the battle or not.

Blunt agreed to that, and Hindman whirled his horse around and rode back to his army.

He then ordered a retreat, but he left a line along the battle front to fool Blunt. These men were cavalrymen; they had their horses back a ways, and just before daylight they slipped back and rode away after their army.

When daylight came, no enemy was in sight. We must give the Johnnies credit for their recovery and the way they managed things there, first and last.

Gen. Grant said that the Battle of Prairie Grove ranked well with the hard-fought battles of the Civil War.

-- William T. McKee, Co.C, 7th Mo. Cav.,
Hutchinson, Ky.

Hansard Family Note in Benton County Pioneer

The March issue of the Benton County Pioneer commemorated the battle of Pea Ridge. Twelve of the 28 pages are devoted to the battle and the proposed National Park. A drawing of Elkhorn Tavern by Elsie M. Sterling is outstanding. Other valuable things in this number are the list of Benton County marriages from 1864 to 1867, David Compton's "Reminiscence of Coon Hollow", and a "History of the Woods Family" by Samuel D. Woods of Sulphur Springs.

The Woods article is of special interest to Washington County readers because of the Hansard relationship. Samuel D. Woods' grandfather was Samuel H. Hansard, whose son, John W. Hansard, was a well-known Fayetteville photographer of the 80's and 90's. The following is quoted from Mr. Woods' article in the Pioneer:

"Samuel H. Hansard, my grandfather, was killed by bushwhackers during the Civil War and their home burned. Then grandmother went to the home of her uncle Gains Weir, where she remained till her death. Their son, John W. Hansard and wife, Carrie Gibson Hansard, had children: Henry, Dora and Charley. John W. came to Fayetteville in 1878 and went into the photography business. His family joined him in 1880, in two covered wagons, and they lived and died there. Their son Harry and family went to St. Louis, where he was a conductor on the train from St. Louis to New Orleans. He and his wife died in St. Louis.

"Elbert P. Hansard and his sister Charlotte A. Hansard (my mother) came to Benton County and located near Droke School, where he taught school. Prof. Droke of the University of Arkansas, was a former pupil of Mr. Hansard. Elbert's brother, Mark D. Hansard, was a clothing salesman, and he married Flora Fulbright, an aunt of J. W. Fulbright, our U.S. Senator. Mark D. lived in Peirce City, Mo., where he reared his family. His brother Tom went to Sherman, Texas and farmed there. Mark's son, Samuel H. and Emma Hansard's youngest son, George H. and wife, Mary (Molly) Hanna Hansard, located at Hume, Mo., where he was deputy sheriff under Storm W. Whaley and his son (who were the father and grandfather of Storm O. Whaley of the University of Arkansas)."

History Talks

Tom Feathers, WCHS secretary, was the speaker at the Prairie Grove Lions Club meeting March 19. WCHS editor W.J. Lemke spoke to the Fayetteville Exchange Club March 20 on "The Overland Mail."

13,000 Miles as a Union Soldier 1861-1864

A recently discovered map of the Battle of Pea Ridge, drawn by Charles S. Squires, a participant in the battle, was reproduced in the March issue of the Benton County Pioneer and in the Arkansas Gazette of March 3, 1957.

The map was drawn by Charles S. Squires of Chicago and is, of course, an important contribution to Pea Ridge material. Alvin Seamster of Bentonville secured the loan of the original drawing from Charles C. Squires, son of the soldier who drew it. He is 88 years old and lives a mile west of Pea Ridge, Ark.

The map shows the location of certain units on the morning of March 8, 1862 -- the closing phase of the battle. It therefore presents only a partial picture of the battle, since the identity, location and movements of the contending armies on March 6 and 7 are not shown. Actually, this is a map of the part that the 37th Illinois Infantry, of which Charles S. Squires was a member, played in the battle.

Just as important as the map, from the standpoint of history, is the log kept by Charles S. Squires, covering his entire service from Aug. 1, 1861 to Sept. 29, 1864. Through this mileage report it is possible to reconstruct not only the part that the 37th Illinois played in the struggle but practically the entire war west of the Mississippi.

Because of the importance of this Union soldier's log and because he three times marched through Washington County -- once to fight at Prairie Grove -- we take pleasure in presenting the Civil War career of Charles S. Squires as given in his tabulated report. And we thank Alvin Seamster, who discovered the Squires map, log and photographs, for making this valuable material available to all lovers of history.

From Places	To Places	On Foot	By Rail	By Water	Remarks
Chicago, Ills.....	St. Louis, Mo.....	280			Sept. 19th, 1861
St. Louis, Mo.....	Boonville, Mo.....		300		Transport Grey Eagle
Boonville, Mo.....	Springfield, Mo.....	155			Via Otterville
Springfield, Mo.....	Syracuse, Mo.....	110			
Syracuse, Mo.....	Otterville, Mo.....	6			
Otterville, Mo.....	Sedalia & Back.....	40			
Otterville, Mo.....	Springfield, Mo.....	125			Jan. 25th, 1862
Springfield, Mo.....	Pea Ridge, Ark.....	75			
Pea Ridge, Ark.....	Camp Halleck & Back.	24			Fought battle of P.R.
Pea Ridge, Ark.....	Steavens, Ark.....	12			
Camp Steavens, Ark....	Cassville, Mo.....	20			
Cassville, Mo.....	Newtonia & Back....	70			In 36 hours
Cassville, Mo.....	Springfield, Mo.....	35			
Springfield, Mo.....	Ozark, Mo. & Back				
	three times	84			
Springfield, Mo.....	McCullochs & Back..	70			
Springfield, Mo.....	Marshfield, Mo.....	30			
Marshfield, Mo.....	Hartsville, Mo.....	35			
Hartsville, Mo.....	Springfield, Mo.....	65			
Springfield, Mo.....	Forsyth & Back.....	172			
Springfield, Mo.....	Newtonia, Mo.....	75			Sept. 28th, 1862
Newtonia, Mo.....	Cassville, Mo.....	35			

From Places	To Places	Foot	Rail	Water	Remarks
Cassville, Mo.....	Mt. Vernon & Back....	60			
Cassville, Mo.....	Huntsville, Ark.....	65			
Huntsville, Ark.....	FAYETTEVILLE, ARK....	40			
FAYETTEVILLE, ARK....	Marionville, Mo.....	90			
Marionville, Mo.....	Ozark, Mo.....	35			In one day
Ozark, Mo.....	Camp Lyon, Mo.....	48			
Camp Lyon, Mo.....	PRAIRIE GROVE, ARK....	110			In three days
PRAIRIE GROVE, ARK....	VanBuren, Ark.....	50			
VanBuren, Ark.....	FAYETTEVILLE, ARK....	60			Via Prairie Grove
FAYETTEVILLE, ARK....	Camp Rosecrans, Ark..	30			
Camp Rosecrans, Ark..	Huntsville, Ark.....	20			
Huntsville, Ark.....	Camp Bliss, Mo.....	85			
Camp Bliss, Mo.....	Ozark, Mo.....	45			
Ozark, Mo.....	Bloomington, Mo.....	30			
Bloomington, Mo.....	Camp Totten, Mo.....	50			
Camp Totten, Mo.....	Rolla, Mo.....	10			
Rolla, Mo.....	St. Louis, Mo.....	113			
St. Louis, Mo.....	Cape Girardeau, Mo..	150			Tow Boat Fisher
Cape Girardeau, Mo..	Chalk Bluffs & Back..	202			In six days & nights
Cape Girardeau, Mo..	St. Louis, Mo.....	150			Transport J. W. Swan
St. Louis, Mo.....	Pilot Knob.....	86			
Pilot Knob, Mo.....	St. Genevieve, Mo.....	60			
St. Genevieve, Mo.....	Vicksburg, Miss.....	700			Transport Hannibal
Vicksburg, Miss.....	Yazoo City, Miss.....	125			" Jatan
Yazoo City, Miss.....	Big Black & Return..	64			
Yazoo City, Miss.....	Vicksburg, Miss.....	125			" "
Vicksburg, Miss.....	Port Hudson, La.....	260			J. Thomas
Port Hudson, La.....	New Orleans, La.....	140			Argo
New Orleans, La.....	Morganza, La.....	155			D. G. Taylor
Morganza, La.....	Atchafalaya, La.....	132			And back twice
Morganza, La.....	Scout and Return....	40			
Morganza, La.....	New Orleans, La.....	155			D. G. Taylor
New Orleans, La.....	Southwest Pass, La...	125			Steam. Geo. P. Body
Souths. Pass, La.....	Brazos de Santiago, Texas..	675			" " "
Brazos DeSantiago...	Brownsville, Tex....	37			24 hrs without water
Brownsville, Tex....	Rio Grande City, Tex..	180			Transport Mustang
Rio Grande City, Tex..	Brownsville, Tex....	180			" "
Brownsville, Tex....	Point Isabell, Tex....	37			
Point Isabell, Tex....	New Orleans, La.....	800			SS St. Mary
New Orleans, La.....	St. Louis, Mo.....	1200			Transport S. B. Hope
St. Louis, Mo.....	Chicago, Ills.....	280			
Total..		2622	932	6238	Grand Total 9792

Battles

Pea Ridge, Arkansas Fought March 6, 7, 8, 1862
 Prairie Grove, Arkansas Fought Dec. 7th, 1862
 Chalk Bluffs, Mo. Fought March 2d, 1863
 Siege of Vicksburg, From June 11th to July 4th, 1863

Skirmishes

Sugar Creek, Arkansas	Van Buren, Arkansas.
Springfield, Missouri	Cape Girardeau, Mo..
Cowskin Prairie, Ind. Nation	Yazoo City, Miss..
Newtonia, Mo.	Atchafalaya, La.
Neosho three times	Huntsville, Arkansas

Battles Three Siege One Skirmishes 13 Total 17

There is numerous scouts and marches not in this Record, there being some of the accounts lost. The exact account of our marches and travels is at Springfield Ills. and the total of miles is some over (13000) thirteen thousand miles.

Charles S. Squires,
Co. G, 37th Regt., Ills. Vols. Inf.

"Threshing" Article in Carroll County Quarterly

The value of work in local history is demonstrated in the current issue (March 1957) of the Carroll County Historical Quarterly, which carries several outstanding articles. Headlining this all-around excellent number is Coy Logan's article on "Threshing Grain".

We do not recall ever before having seen this subject discussed so authoritatively, completely and interestingly. Pioneer methods of threshing are explained in detail -- from the horses trampling the bundles of grain on the "threshing-floor" to the "groundhog" thresher operated by a treadmill. And if you think you know threshing terminology, try these: chaff-beater, tumbling-rod, winding the grain, driving stobs, and others. Mr. Logan names his sources: "Grandmother remembered", "Will Seitz recalls", "according to Lem Kendall", "Bradley Bunch gives the following information."

Incidentally, Bradley Bunch's information was that the first threshing machine ever brought into Carroll County came from the Oxford Bend section of Washington County in 1859. It was a Johnson thresher, also known as a "chaff piler".

Coy Logan writes nostalgically of the threshing crew working for the "toll" (one-tenth) and eating the sumptuous meals served by the women. The menu? Here it is: "Fried chicken, ham meat, new cabbage, roasting ears, fresh beans, new potatoes, english peas, hot biscuits and wild honey, blackberry cobbler and apple pie."

Bringing his account right down to 1957, the author says: "At this time separator threshers are almost obsolete in Carroll County. There are probably not more than a half dozen in operation and they are used more for oats than for wheat. The grain binders also have disappeared".

While Coy Logan's article on threshing is most important as social history, the March issue of the Carroll Quarterly contains other readable articles, particularly "Green Forests First Cornet Band" by Boyd W. Johnson and "Pioneers in Radio Work" by Frances McClelland. Bound in the back of this number are several genealogical blank forms to be filled in by readers whose ancestors came to Carroll County before 1860. Mrs. Alice Baker Gentry of Berryville is in charge of the society's genealogical research. -- W.J.L.

STATE MEETING

The Arkansas Historical Association will hold its annual meeting April 26-27 at Arkadelphia. A feature of the program will be a panel discussion of programs of work for county historical societies.

Society Publishes Second Booklet in Walker Series

The Washington County Historical Society announces publication of JUDGE DAVID WALKER: HIS LIFE AND LETTERS. This is a companion volume to the Society's 1956 publication of THE WALKER FAMILY LETTERS. To complete the Walker story, we plan to publish a third booklet, called THE WALKER FAMILY PORTRAITS.

The current volume (JUDGE DAVID WALKER) has the following divisions: 1) Judge Walker's autobiography; 2) commissions, licenses and other documents; 3) Walker's letters to Judge Scott of Camden, his colleague on the Supreme Court; 4) his letters to D.C. Williams, Van Buren business man; 5) fragmentary letters from Judge Walker's notebook; 6) his notes written while on a journey to Richmond in 1863; 7) war-time miscellany; 8) proceedings of the "Railroad Convention" at Fayetteville in 1870; 9) letters written to Rev. R.W. Trimble of Pine Bluff who was writing a history of Arkansas; 10) miscellaneous items, including Judge Walker's "Address to the People of Washington County" in April 1861; 11) his obituary from the Arkansas Democrat 1879; and 12) the Walker genealogy, written by Miss Sue Walker in 1929.

Most of the material has never before been published. It is of historical importance, since it covers the pioneer and Civil War periods in Arkansas, in the words of one of the actors in the events of those years.

The letters in JUDGE DAVID WALKER are fascinating reading. There is a charming description of his life on the Walker farm on the West Fork southeast of Fayetteville. There is an account of his meeting in Richmond with Mrs. Rose Greenough, noted Confederate spy. There is his letter to Harris Flanagin, Confederate governor of Arkansas, asking that "horse-riding companies" (guerillas) be compelled to join regular regiments. There is a letter from the editor of the Arkansas Gazette (C. C. Danley) pleading for more Union candidates for the 1861 convention. And there is the eulogy from the Arkansas Democrat that closes with this paragraph:

A great lawyer, an upright judge, an eminent citizen has gone. Conspicuous in his services to the state and to society through a long and eventful period, he leaves to his children the priceless heritage of an unsullied name. The people whom he served so long and faithfully will venerate his memory in the years to come and point to his life as a model and example for men who have an ambition to serve the state. Full of years and honors he rests from his labors.

JUDGE DAVID WALKER: HIS LIFE AND LETTERS may be secured by sending \$2 (plus 8 cents postage) to our secretary, Tom Feathers, Box 225, Fayetteville, Ark. Only 100 copies have been printed. The secretary also has a few copies left of THE WALKER FAMILY LETTERS (\$3 plus postage). These two booklets are among the more important contributions that our Society has made to the preservation of Arkansas history.

125th Anniversary

A group of interested persons met March 14 in Wesley Hall to discuss the possibility of celebrating the 125th anniversary of Central Methodist Church, Fayetteville. Miss Elizabeth Ellis was named chairman of a committee to suggest plans for the observance.

Virginia Cabell Spring-Dunlap

by Elsa Vaught

Born in Benton County, Arkansas, reared in Fort Smith and Huntsville, Texas, she spent 49 years of her adult life in Winslow, Washington County, Arkansas.

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Ancestry

Virginia Cabell Spring was born Nov. 25, 1845. Her parents and other members of both her mother's and her father's family came to Arkansas in the early 1830's., thereby becoming one of the first families to settle in Bentonville. Nicholas Spring and his wife, his brother William, and his brother-in-law John Smith, his father and mother and other members of the family all came to Bentonville while Arkansas was still a territory.

Dr. Nicholas Spring and a Mr. Blyth opened the first store in Bentonville under the name of Blyth & Spring. The brother-in-law, John Smith, opened a store at Osage. This John and Mary Spring-Smith had an only daughter, Nancy ("Nannie") who became the wife of Nicholas Bartlett Pearce, Brig.Gen. CSA. *(1) Nicholas Spring and his brother, Col. James Pinckney Spring, moved to Fort Smith about 1850. William Spring remained in Benton County until his death in 1872. He and his wife, Lucinda, are buried in the Bentonville Cemetery now, but originally their graves were on the grounds of their home.

Virginia Cabell-Spring's grandparents were Capt. and Mrs. John Spring and Dr. and Mrs. Aaron Schoolfield, all of whom came from Virginia into Tennessee and then to Arkansas. Dr. Schoolfield died before the birth of his granddaughter and is buried about a mile east of Bentonville in a family cemetery near the old Geo. P. Wallace home. This cemetery is a short distance north of the old house (now removed). His grave is covered with two immense flat sandstones raised by sidestones two feet high. It is inscribed "A. Schoolfield, 1775-1843".

Virginia Cabell's father was Dr. Nicholas Spring; her mother, Virginia Ann Cabell Schoolfield-Spring. She was the youngest of their six children and the only one to survive infancy. Mrs. Spring died when the little daughter was three weeks old. Thus, within ten years of their migration to Arkansas, Mrs. Dunlap's mother, her grandfather Schoolfield and her grandmother Nancy Moore-Spring, all died in Bentonville and are buried there.

Mrs. Dunlap's great-grandfather, Lawrence Spring of Philadelphia, served in the Revolutionary War; her grandfather, Capt. John Spring, in the War of 1812.

*(1) From "Flashback", April 1951: "In 1872 Brig.Gen. Nicholas Bart Pearce, a West Point graduate who lived on a farm in Benton County, moved to Fayetteville and was professor of mathematics and engineering in the Arkansas Industrial University."

The Fort Smith Period

Virginia Cabell Spring was reared by her uncle, Col. James Pinckney Spring (her father's brother) and his wife, Pocahontas Catherine Schoolfield-Spring (her mother's sister). These foster parents (uncle and aunt by blood) were always "Papa" and "Mamma" to little Virginia and she lived with them even after her own father re-married and all of them were living in Fort Smith.

From about the age of six until Virginia was sixteen she lived in Fort Smith. It was during this time that she attended the Overland Ball which was held Oct. 13, 1858 to celebrate the arrival of the Overland Mail at Fort Smith. She was in her 14th year at the time. As she said in an interview many years later, "Of course, I should have been home in bed, but my big sister (Miss Minnie Spring, really a cousin) was so good to me, as well as were all her beaux, that I went to the Ball and had a grand time -- so many dances and all." (Dr. Nicholas Spring's name is among those signing the printed invitation to this Ball.

In this interview given to the reporter for the Southwest American at Dunlap Heights in Winslow, Mrs. Dunlap revealed a mind, keen and alert at 90. We shall quote from this interview as it not only sets forth the life and activities of Virginia but it recounts details of an event that is of much interest to us now as we contemplate celebrating the centennial of the Overland Mail next year.

Quoting: "The ball took place in a hall over a store which was called 'The Hole in the Wall'." *(2)

(The Ball was held in a large hall on the lower floor of a building in the Rogers Block on the west side of Washington Street, now 2nd. The banquet was given in an upper room of a building across the street on the east side called Washington Hall. This was in John Rogers' hotel, later City Hotel, and a Mr. J.K. McKenzie managed it. - EV)

Again quoting: "The building was one of a solid block of buildings fronting east and was opposite the McKenzie Hotel. This hotel burned down at the beginning of the war."

(Actually this fire was on Sept. 20, 1860. It originated in Dr. Nicholas Spring's office, a brick building next to the Rogers Hotel. John Rogers and his family lived in this hotel. He was confined to his bed at the time of the fire, having suffered a stroke. Six strong Negroes carried him and the bed to the home of Jerry Kannady, a nephew, where he died a few weeks later. -- EV)

Quoting: "The music for the dancing was furnished by the city string band of six or seven pieces. A young Mr. Baer was a member of the band, I remember. No such wild harum scarum as they have these days was played." Mrs. Dunlap recalled that the dances of those days were the cotillion, waltz, schottish, mazurka, redowda, and the German. "The Jenny Lind Polka was probably the most popular air of that time," she said.

*(2) Conklings' History of the Overland Mail says of this ball: "Mr. Butterfield was carried into the banquet hall on the shoulders of four young men..... With good food, champagne, speeches and toasts, the affair was one of the largest and most successful ever attempted in the state."

Quoting: "The lighting effects for the decorations were furnished by wax candles, many of them in chandeliers with crystal pendants, and there were candelabra. The ladies wore mostly white; sheer organdies, tarlatans, Swiss of a quality and sheerness seldom found now were the materials. The style of the dresses was low-necked, short-sleeved, mostly of narrow ruffles with a short waist (baby waist) with berthas of lace, real lace I mean, or puffs of the dress material with lace insertion. A few of the girls wore white lace dresses. As I said before, white with colored sash or ribbon."

"Coiffures were not very high but many curls were worn. Some of the girls wore their hair parted in the middle and knotted in the back with one or two curls pinned to one side of the knot. Ornamental hairpins with pendants were used. High combs were not yet in fashion. A few women wore flowers in their hair or a small bunch of artificial flowers pinned low on the side of the head."

"Shoes were white kid or white satin slippers, cut low and with low heels or without heels. A dainty bow of lace was on the toe and some were tied with ribbon (various colors) and laced around the ankle four or five inches high. Gloves were silk net, white, black or cream, some finger-less except for the thumb. Others had 'fingers' about one-half the length of the fingers. Some of the net gloves were wrist length; some were elbow length.

"All ladies wore flowers, some natural, some artificial, corsages, shoulder knots, and so on. Jewelry was expensive -- not any of the modern-day costume jewelry -- real jewels, brooches, necklaces, ear rings (pendant type), rings and bracelets. Bracelets were very important but not too many of them. The jewelry frequently matched, the brooch, necklace, ear rings and bracelet being all of one set. Fans were particularly handsome. Feather fans, silk fans, lace-embroidered ones were carried. Some wore them suspended from the waist on narrow ribbon or tiny gold chain. Very sheer handkerchiefs, always white, in lace or Swiss embroidery, were used.

"The dignified ladies wore handsome grosgrain silks, satins, brocades, moire antique, some colored silk with lace overdress.

"The gentlemen dressed in evening clothes which were not so different from those worn today. Officers of the military post appeared either in their military uniforms or in formal evening clothes."

Mrs. Dunlap remembered many of the guests who attended the Ball. Among these were Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bowen (maternal grandparents of Roy, Ben and Mont Johnston of Fort Smith); Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mayers (parents of Miss Cora and Mamie Mayers and their brother Bob Mayers; Dr. and Mrs. Bomford; Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Kannady; Miss Sarah Dillard (later, Mrs. Joe Bossert).

She remembered young men at the Ball: Dr. Albert Dunlap; A. Hamilton Cline (he had the drug store and the postoffice); Meade Montgomery and a Mr. Easton (who were clerks at the Post for the commanding officer there); Dr. E. R. Duval, Dr. Nick Smith of Osage; Col. and Mrs. Montgomery (commandant at the Post); also at the Ball were Miss Laura Pulliam, a niece of Mrs. Montgomery; Miss Minnie Spring (her "big sister"); Dr. Nicholas Spring (her own father); Ben Atkinson, Sr.; Miss Belle Atkinson (later Mrs. Shumard); Miss Maggie Thurston, daughter of

Dr. Thurston of Van Buren; the Misses Harriett and Sarah Wheeler, daughters of Judge John F. Wheeler.

(This is the John F. Wheeler who in February 1828 issued the first Cherokee Phoenix in Huntsville, Alabama. In June 1847, with the financial assistance of John Rogers, he began publication of the Fort Smith Herald, the first newspaper to be published in Fort Smith. --- EV)

Mrs. Dunlap remembered others. There was Wm. Mead Fishback (later governor of Arkansas); S. F. Duffy (a young lawyer); Joseph Bostick (a protege of Jefferson Davis and one of the most popular of the men); Col. and Mrs. Griffith; Miss Sally Arbuckle. Many officers from the military post attended.

Again quoting: "There were any number of officials from the Overland Route but my youth was not so much impressed by these as with the military men."

Mrs. Dunlap could not recall definitely the menu that was served that night but said there was always a veritable banquet at any ball of importance. Roasted turkey or young pig with apple-in-mouth, whole hams, creamed potatoes, gravy, biscuits or light bread, gelatine, ice cream, jelly of all kinds and pickles were served. There would be magnificent cakes and fruits and preserves in tall-stemmed preserve dishes, everything in great abundance.

Quoting: "There were army men of that day who took pride in their carving skill and one of these would preside over the serving of the meats. Probably Mr. Jerry Kannady served at the Ball. In serving, the man prepared the plate for the lady he escorted to the ball. All the food was served from one huge table. The guests stood while eating."

(A picture of Virginia Cabell Spring made from a tintype taken in Mississippi in 1865, as this family of refugees was returning from the sojourn in Texas seven years after the Overland Ball, was printed with this interview when it appeared in the Southwest American of February 1936. --- EV)

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Huntsville, 1861-1865

The home of Col. James Pinckney Spring stood on the corner of what is now Sixth and D in Fort Smith. It was from this home of her foster parents that the young girl, later to be Mrs. Albert Dunlap, together with all the members of her family who were not out fighting with the Confederate Army, left for Huntsville, Texas. They fled on Christmas Day, 1861, at one o'clock in the morning, leaving all their belongings in the house, silver and china on the table. The Federal Army was approaching from Van Buren.

In Huntsville, Texas, the Spring family met many "cultured families," some of them refugees like themselves. Virginia, 16 years old in 1861, experienced some of the most interesting and enthralling events of her life during this Texas period. Her "papa", Col. James P. Spring, became a close friend of Gen. Sam Houston. They are buried side by side in the Huntsville Cemetery, both having died in the early 1860's. *(3)

*(3) A personal report on the grave in the Huntsville Cemetery: "We had almost given up hope of finding the grave of Col. Spring, but after the caretaker left, I turned back and searched again all around the burial plot of Gen. Sam Houston. Suddenly, there it was, just north across the path from the Houston monument. There was no fence around this lot. The marker was tiny, about two feet high, one foot broad and two inches thick. It was so loose it was almost flat. The only inscription was "Col. Spring", no dates, nothing else. This one grave was on a lot where there were a number of small markers with the letter W. The large stone on this lot bore the inscription, "Sarah Hopkins Wynne 1827-1867."

(Mrs. Dunlap's own father, Dr. Nicholas Spring, was buried in Fort Smith, March 20, 1870. For a number of years he was assistant surgeon at the US Army post in Fort Smith but resigned at the beginning of the war. He was a Mason of high degree and a member of the first organized vestry of St. John's Episcopal Church in Fort Smith. -- EV)

From Huntsville, Texas, Virginia with Mrs. James P. Spring (then a widow) and other members of the family, went to Shreveport, La., in 1865; from there to Holmes County, Miss., and in 1868 to Leavenworth, Kans., in the hope of benefiting Mrs. Spring's health. Impoverished, all possessions gone, it was necessary to earn a living for her ailing mother and herself. Virginia's education had been musical. She was quick in seeing this as her one asset and she started to give piano lessons. Soon she had more pupils than she could find time for. Not only did she make a home for, and support her mother, but she saved enough to buy a town lot. The mother, old and broken by the war, survived their uprooting by only a few years. She died in December 1872 and is buried in Leavenworth.

Immediately after the death of Mrs. Spring, Virginia now 27, returned to the home of her childhood where she lived with Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Sutton on Knox St. (now Sixth St.). Mr. Sutton's sister, Pauline Gertrude Sutton, was the second wife of Virginia's own father, Dr. Nicholas Spring. Virginia lived with the Suttons until her marriage to Dr. Albert Dunlap whom she had met 15 years before at the Overland Ball.

They were married on Dec. 7, 1873 in St. John's Episcopal Church. Dr. Dunlap was 17 years older than his wife and had been a friend of the family from early days. He was born Dec. 8, 1828. *(4)

*(4) A biography of Dr. Albert Dunlap in Goodspeed's History, under Sebastian County, states that his parents were Joseph and Mildred Jones-Dunlap who came to Washington County, Ark. from Alabama while he was yet a minor. (He was born 1828). It further states that they were living in Washington County at the time the biography was being written (1888-1890) and that his grandmother, Frances Dunlap, was the "oldest person in the county", being at that time 97 years old. It states that Albert Dunlap attended the Ozark Institute and in 1850 began the study of medicine under Dr. T. J. Pollard. He graduated from the medical department of Transylvania University at Lexington, Ky. in 1851. He began the practice of medicine in Fort Smith in 1852 as a partner of Dr. Nicholas Spring.

The Winslow Period

In July of 1887, Dr. and Mrs. Dunlap moved to Winslow, hoping the better climate of the higher altitude would benefit them. Virginia was now 42, her husband 59. Quoting from the Winslow American of April 17, 1936:

"They established Winslow as a successful health and summer resort, patronized largely by their personal friends among the cultured and well-to-do of Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma as well as Texas.

"Dr. Dunlap lost no time in helping to organize a public school district, donating a lot and building to the district. They established St. Steven's Episcopal Church, donating a lot for the building. They donated and secured from friends funds for the erection of a modest church building, deeding the whole to the Diocese of Arkansas unencumbered by any indebtedness -- a matter of abiding pride with Mrs. Dunlap. They donated land for the little church cemetery, St. Steven's Cemetery. Both are buried there. Dr. Dunlap died Dec. 4, 1910; Mrs. Dunlap, April 4, 1936."

Mr. and Mrs. Dunlap had no children of their own but they reared the children of Dr. Dunlap's brother, Clint Dunlap -- a girl and a boy -- and a son of his sister who had married a Mr. J. P. Flynn. He at one time practiced law in Fayetteville. These children were not adopted "since they had living fathers" but later the Dunlaps did adopt a "granddaughter", Helen Pearce Dunlap.

The home they built on Boston Heights was a large two-story frame building. They were generous in their hospitality and as the fame of Winslow as a summer resort increased, their home overflowed with guests. In time these guests became paying guests and the facilities of the "Heights" were opened for summer classes. Mr. O. E. Williams of Fayetteville remembers spending the summer of 1907 in Winslow with a class in mathematics under the tutorship of the late Dr. A. M. Harding of the University of Arkansas. The Winslow Mirror of June 1908 tells of a class of young ministerial students being taught by an Episcopal clergyman that summer. Classes were held in an open pavilion on the "Heights" but the students roomed in various homes about town.

A boarding school for young women was maintained during much of this time in the Dunlap home. The Rev. W. A. Nichol and wife were managers of this school which was called the Helen Dunlap School. They advertised that they "gave special training courses for preparation to enter our great university near by."

Quoting from the Winslow American, April 17, 1936: "Mrs. Dunlap gave the ten-acre site and the buildings on Boston Heights for the Helen Dunlap Memorial School for Mountain Girls as a memorial to her deceased granddaughter (adopted), Helen (Pearce) Dunlap, who died at the age of eight and a half years. Mrs. Dunlap cooperated with the Rt. Rev. Wm. Montgomery Brown, bishop of the Diocese of Arkansas, in founding the school. She continued to cooperate to the utmost with the church and the D.A.R. for its continued operation."

Still quoting: "Except for the church, the National Order of the Daughters of the American Revolution has been throughout the years the school's most steadfast generous friend and supporter."

The school continued to function until 1932. It remained the property of the church and after some years was re-opened under the management of the Rev. and Mrs. Simpson-Atmore. The school ceased to function about 1937. At the present time all the buildings have been razed and even many of the fine old trees have been cut. Only the foundation and the great stones leading up to the house remain.

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Virginia Cabell Spring-Dunlap had a proud and honorable ancestry. Her life added honor to her heritage. Without a doubt she has been Winslow's most outstanding character. Her foster daughter who still lives would probably rank second.

Her obituary stated that on that Palm Sunday in April 1936, the church, the nearby homes, the town, all overflowed with the friends who came "from Fayetteville, Greenland, Ozark, Joplin, Springfield, Van Buren and Fort Smith to pay tribute to Winslow's oldest and most loved citizen."

The officiating priest was the Rev. Carlton D. Lathrop, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, Fort Smith. He was assisted by the Rev. Samuel H. Rainey of St. Paul's, Fayetteville, and the Rev. Louis T. Hardin of Trinity Church, Van Buren.

The Cabell Line

The name Cabell is famous in Virginia history. The first of that name to arrive in the colonies was Wm. and Elizabeth (Birks) Cabell, natives of England who settled in the Virginia colony in 1723. He secured large grants of land in 1738 on the banks of the James River in the present counties of Buckingham, Nelson, Appomattox and Amherst, in all about 20,000 acres. His son, Col. Wm. Cabell, was sheriff of Albemarle County, county surveyor and a member of the House of Burgesses. He was a member of the famous "declaration of rights" committee and later a state senator. A grandson, Samuel Jordan Cabell, born 1756, died 1815, soldier and Congressman, married into the Patrick Henry family. When the town of Cabellstown was founded he was one of the trustees.

This family has given many men of distinction to America all down the line. Among these would be William Lewis Cabell, born 1827, and James Lawrence Cabell, born 1813, both of whom served in the Civil War.

Gen. Wm. L. Cabell was the son of Benjamin W. S. and Sara Eppers (Dannell) Cabell; grandson of Joseph Cabell and great-grandson of Pocahontas. He was a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and resigned in 1861 to join the Confederacy. He was promoted to Brigadier General CSA in 1863. After the war he practiced law in Fort Smith until 1872 when he moved to Texas.

Dr. James Lawrence Cabell was born in Nelson County, Va. He graduated at the University of Pennsylvania, studied medicine in Baltimore, Philadelphia and Paris. He became professor of anatomy and surgery in the University of Virginia. He had charge of the Confederate military hospitals during the war and subsequently was chairman of the National Sanitary Conference and president of the National Board of Health.

List of Persons Assessing Personal Property for Taxation
in Washington County for 1869

From among the many items in the G. W. M. Reed family archives, now in the possession of J. Fay Reed, a son living in Fayetteville, there has been uncovered a book containing a list of persons with their personal property assessments for the year 1869.

George. W. M. Reed served as a Captain in the 1st Arkansas Cavalry, United States Volunteers, during the Civil War. Mr. Reed was elected clerk of the Washington County Court in 1864 and served through 1865 and 1866. In December 1867 he opened a War Claims Agency and Land Claims Agency in Fayetteville. During the same year he was again elected County Clerk and served through 1871.

In 1869 Washington County had the same area as today but contained only 13 political townships: Brush Creek, Cane Hill, Clear Creek, Cove Creek, Elm Springs, Illinois, Marrs Hill, Mountain, Prairie, Richland, Vineyard, West Fork and White River. The assessment list was thus divided, except for Cane Hill and Vineyard which were combined.

Personal property assessed included the following items: poll tax, horses, mules, meat cattle, sheep, hogs, pleasure carriages, watches, pianofortes, goods and merchandise, materials and manufactured articles, money and credits, including all balance of book accounts, money invested in bonds and stocks, property required to be listed as a banker, broker or stock jobber, and other personal property. -- T.C.F.

B eginning with Cove Creek Township, FLASHBACK will publish this tax assessment list in a series.

List of Persons Assessed in Cove Creek Township

R. F. Abshir	Giles M. Farmer	John Reese
Ezel O. Anders	James Friend	J. R. Rhinehart
Scott Atkinson	George Friend	James W. Scott
Joseph Birchfield	Edward Hodges	W. N. Scott
Lafayette Brewster	George H. Horn	A. T. Strickler
Barsh Brewster	I. W. Horn	Benj. Strickler
Richmond Baker	Jas. H. Hembrie	A. S. Strickler
John Baker	Howell Hodges	W. H. Sharp
Galveston Bell	R. E. Hodges	John J. Smith
Edward Cockran	Ewing Henry	F. M. Smith
Valentin Cockran	Wm. Hodges	John M. Simpson
Wm. Cochran	P. C. Kinchelo	A. M. Tatum
Burrell Clayton	Jacob Keck	Isaac Taylor
John Carnell	Joseph Laremore	Samuel Taylor
Calvin Chambers	George G. Morrow	Wm. Vance
Jebur Chambers	John Morrow	R. M. Wood
W. H. Crawley	Samuel Morrow	Jacob Wood
Alfred Clanton	Jerry Mosier	Joseph P. Wood
David Cowan	Wm. Presley	Mary Wilhight
James I. Council	David Richardson	Stephen Wooten
Charles Dill	John Richardson	Alley Wooten
Manhl N. Dale	Levi Richardson	Larkin Wammock
John Elmore	Michael Rhinehart	Wm. Zinnamon
Jesse Friend	Wm. W. Reese	
Ben S. Farmer	Abraham Ricks	

Two Stirman Brothers

by Rowena McCord Gallaway

James Harvey Stirman migrated to Washington County in 1839 and his brother, Dr. John Irving Stirman, either accompanied him or joined him later. These gentlemen came from Kentucky and were nephews of the Rev. William Stirman who some ten years earlier had preceded them to Arkansas from that state.

Identity of given names shows a kinship of their respective families. William Stirman, the minister, had a son James H. (probably Harvey) and another son Valentine Irving. The name Irving persisted in later generations, notably as a praenomen of Erasmus I. Stirman, is said to have been the youngest colonel in the Confederate army.

J. Harvey and John I. Stirman were among the prominent ante-bellum citizens of Washington County. J.H. Stirman lived in Fayetteville forty years, during most of which time he was a leader in business and civic affairs. Mr. Stirman was an active patron of education. He and his wife were good friends of that pioneer preceptress Miss Sophia Sawyer, who sometimes was a guest in their home. It was at this residence that Miss Annie James was received with cordial hospitality when she arrived in town to teach at "Miss Sawyer's school". Mr. Stirman was an incorporator and trustee of Arkansas College, in 1853, and of the short-lived Fayetteville Female Institute.

The Stirmans were friends of Mrs. Ridge, the widow of Chief John Ridge. An old "Accounts Current" record *(1) of Washington County shows J.H. Stirman as guardian for "Flora C. Ridge, a minor", Jan. 1, 1851, and for Andrew Ridge, Jan. 2, 1851. (This entry is interesting for mention of names of some Ridge family servants.)

Like many of his associates, J. Harvey Stirman was an active and enthusiastic Mason. He is listed as Grand Master of Washington Lodge No. 1 in 1848 and as High Priest of Far West Chapter in 1855. *(2) He was well acquainted with the distinguished pioneer Mason, Archibald Yell, and was present when the hero was buried at Waxhaws in 1847 and at Evergreen Cemetery in 1872. For years, Mr. Stirman was the proud owner of Yell's desk-bookcase, which after her husband's death Mrs. Stirman gave to another Masonic friend of his, Col. J.H. VanHoose.

By way of livelihood Mr. Stirman was a retail merchant. We quote a Fayetteville correspondent of the year 1849 in the Van Buren Intelligencer: "The retail business here is important, and the merchants engaged in it are 'coining money' faster than they could do it in California. Messrs. Stirman and Dickson...are doing a fine business, and I must say that dry goods are retailed here as cheap as at Van Buren. They are able to do so on account of the small expense of storekeepers, living, etc." *(3) (Those must indeed have been halcyon days in Fayetteville.) The firm of Stirman and Dickson handled a wide variety of goods from jewelry to hardware.

*(1) Will Bk., pp. 314-15

*(2) Goodspeed: History of Northwest Arkansas, pp. 247-8

*(3) Ibid, p. 240

Mr. Stirman's business activity, however, was not, it appears, confined to selling merchandise, as is shown by an old bill of sale belonging today to Alexander heirs:

"I have this day (as the agent of Riggs of Pa.) sold to John Alexander a negro woman named Nancy about thirty-nine years old and her child Ellen about five years old, both warranted to be of sound mind and slaves for life, and I do hereby (as the agent of said Riggs & Co.) warrant and defend the title to same negroes against the claim or claims of any person or persons whatsoever.

"Given under my hand this fifth day of September 1845.

Jas. H. Stirman
for Riggs & Co."

Attest John Grant

In the year 1853 Messrs. Stirman and Dickson built what is believed to have been the first steam mill in northwest Arkansas. "In June 1854 James H. Stirman, Alf M. Wilson and Jonas Tebbetts were appointed to let contract for a new courthouse. George D. Baker built it for \$6,900." *(4) Mr. Dickson recorded in his personal diary that month: "Saturday, June 17 -- New construction contract entered into by G. D. Baker. G ave bond for \$2,000 -- J.H.Stirman, J.L.Dickson, L.B.Cunningham and J.M.Tebbetts securities for the building so far as \$2,000 is concerned." *(5) In 1858 Mr.Stirman joined other citizens in efforts to obtain a railroad for Fayetteville and northwest Arkansas.

"When a new city charter was granted by the legislature," J.H. Stirman was one of seven councilmen elected to serve under the new mayor, Jacob W. Walker. At the election of February 1861, Mr.Stirman was designated a delegate to the proposed state convention on secession. He received the largest number of votes cast -- 1,924 -- even more than Judge David Walker, who subsequently was made president of that history-making body.

From comments of his partner, Mr. Joseph Lawrence Dickson, we conclude that Mr. Stirman was the more aggressive, the more optimistic of the two. Mr.Dickson was evidently the conservative member of the firm. He continually advocated selling only for cash. He had little confidence in the buying ability of his partner. To quote one entry from his diary: "Tuesday, Feb. 14, 1854.....Stirman, lady and son left for the East by the St. Louis route in company with Henry Rieff. I make no calculation of making money as Stirman is not a good buyer, this is certain." And again "April 17, 1854...2 boxes (arrived) from C. Cope & Co. and I don't think the selections are good either as to taste, quality or price. Ribbons and embroideries appear cheap enough but then all is said." In the year 1860 Messrs. Stirman and Dickson, like their contemporaries in retail trade, ran notices in the local papers asking those indebted to them to settle: "We must have money or something that will pay debts."

Since their Eastern connections enabled them to be "general conveyors of news" in the locality, the store conducted by Messrs. Stirman and Dickson was an important community center for the county.

*(4) Campbell: 100 Years of Fayetteville, p. 27

*(5) The Journal of J.L.Dickson, 1956

During the palmy days of Mr. Stirman's mercantile career, that "merchant prince" of America, A. T. Stewart of Alexander-Turney-Stewart and Company, presented Mr. and Mrs. Stirman with a handsome mantel piece of Italian marble for their new home. This residence stood on East Street a short block north of the public square. W.S. Campbell, author of "100 Years of Fayetteville", recalls: "The writer saw the place in its beauty in 1896: great elms, lovely lawn, spacious." *(6) The mantel piece came by sea, gulf, and river to Van Buren, then up the hilly roads to Fayetteville. This present proved to be a much admired addition to the handsome furnishings of the Stirman home.

One afternoon toward the close of the century, this domicile was the scene of a large tea given by "Aunt Katie", as Mrs. Stirman was often called. This lady was the daughter of a Revolutionary soldier, Capt. George Robards. One of her cherished possessions was the silver spoon that was presented to her by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

After Mrs. Stirman died and her residence passed from family ownership, Mr. Phil Maguire bought that marble mantel piece and installed it in his large new frame house on West Dickson. This home now belongs to Mrs. Estelle Baker. Mrs. Baker, however, has never seen the old-time Stirman memento, for the late Mrs. Jay Fulbright bought it (on a debt) from a previous owner. Today the locally famous mantel piece is still in the home of Mrs. Fulbright's son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Hal C. Douglas.

Noteworthy also is the fact that an old leather trunk of "Aunt Katie Stirman's" has been preserved in the home of Mrs. C.B. Paddock as a token of the warm friendship that existed between the families of J.H. Stirman and Dr. S.F. Paddock.

Also extant is the J.H. Stirman family Bible. On one of its fly leaves "Uncle Harvey" wrote -- evidently in his last days -- "The longest liver gets this." From the records in this Bible we learn the following facts. James H. Stirman was born Feb. 5, 1807 in Richmond, Ky. James W. Stirman and Catherine Robards were married Tuesday, Aug. 28, 1838, at Palmyra, Mo. James William Stirman was born in Fayetteville Aug. 23, 1839. George Thomas Stirman was born in Fayetteville June 5, 1842. *(7)

James William Stirman - "Jimmy" to his parents and intimate friends, attended Cane Hill College as a boarding pupil. Early in the year 1861 he joined Capt. S.R. Bell's company, being one of the very first to volunteer for the defense of his native state. He participated in that "First Manassas of the West", the Battle of Wilson's Creek.

*(6) Oppus cit., p.8

*(7) Among the earliest interments in Evergreen Cemetery, Fayetteville, were those of two children who were cousins: five-year-old George Thomas Stirman and little Mary Polrman Pollard, the beautiful daughter of Dr. and Mrs. T.J. Pollard, who died when she was four. The ashes of these two children lie beneath old-time flat stones level with the ground.

J.W.Stirman was one of the incorporators (in 1884) of the Pacific & Great Eastern Railway Company, which for several years operated a unique line - to Wyman. When the Fayetteville Building and Loan Association was organized in 1886, James Stirman was its first secretary. He is better remembered, however, as a long-time employee of the McIlroy Bank, being bookkeeper "and assistant to everybody needing help."

James W. Stirman was a bachelor. In his last years when poor health had forced him to quit work, he was befriended by the cultured and kind Mrs.Mary (Mrs.S.F.) Paddock, who received him into her household. He died at her home in 1906.

Mr. J.H.Stirman was an invalid for several years prior to his death, which occurred Monday, Nov. 17, 1879. The following sketch appeared in the Sentinel, Nov. 25, 1879:

"THE LATE J.H.STIRMAN

The passing away of such a man as J.Harvey Stirman, after an upright life of many years in this community, demands more than the brief paragraphs announcing his death which was all we had time or space for last week.

He was a native of Madison County, Kentucky, born in 1807 and was in his 73d year at the time of his death. He came to this place in 1839, and all his after life was spent in our midst. He was a merchant whose reputation was known far and wide, and until his business was destroyed by the war, held a leading position in this section of the state. He once filled the office of Postmaster and twice that of Registrar of the Land Office, while his services were invoked and faithfully given to many of our local societies.

He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1861, and follows to the grave one of his colleagues, Judge David Walker, within a few weeks. Two other members from this county in that honorable body, Hons.T.M.Gunter and John A.P.Parks, survive him.

Mr.Stirman was twice married, his first wife dying in early life. He married the second time, in 1838, the estimable lady who has been his devoted and faithful companion through the remainder of his days and now survives him. His children have preceded him to the grave, except one son, Mr. James W. Stirman, of this city. The funeral was largely attended, the services being performed at the Christian Church, of which he had been a member for more than thirty years, *(8) by Rev. M. Floyd. The remains were deposited in Evergreen Cemetery after the impressive manner of the Masonic Order.

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JOHN IRVING STIRMAN

John Irving Stirman was born in 1813 at Richmond, Ky., and died Jan. 18, 1876, at the age of sixty-three. On moving to Fayetteville he was appointed local Postmaster Dec. 11, 1841 and served as such for three years. Having studied medicine in his native state, Doctor Stirman soon established a good practice in his new home and during the 1840's became one of the leading physicians of Washington County.

*(8) Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Stirman were charter members of this church when it was organized in the year 1848.

Doctor Stirman's wife and the wife of J. Harvey Stirman were cousins, both born in Kentucky. Mrs. John I. Stirman was the former Elizabeth Magdalene Winlock. She and Doctor Stirman were married Jan. 20, 1841. This couple were the parents of three children, two of whom were born in Fayetteville: Anna Mary, born Feb. 12, 1844; George Thomas, born Feb. 12, 1849; W.H., born Sept. 23, 1856.

George Thomas Stirman had eleven children, one of whom is Mrs. Ray Davis. A granddaughter is Mrs. Richard Linebarger of Little Rock. Mrs. Davis relates this incident from family stories: In 1860 Doctor Stirman's only daughter, Mary Anna, was attending school in New England. She wrote to her father that from what she heard she feared there was going to be a war, and that she wanted to come home. Doctor Stirman went for her. On his way he took a lot of silver dollars to Philadelphia and ordered these to be made into tableware. On the return trip he and his daughter stopped for these pieces, which today remain a prized family treasure.

Doctor Stirman left Fayetteville in the mid-fifties, moving to Pope County, where for a time he practiced at Norristown. Subsequently he removed to Dardanelle. There "he built up a fine practice and an enduring reputation."

John I. Stirman was a political leader -- one of the statesman type. He represented his district -- Yell and Perry counties -- in the Arkansas senate for four years. He was Secretary of State from March 1860 to March 1862, during a critical and most trying period of Arkansas' history.

Read Governor Rector's logical and eloquent war-time proclamation to the people of Arkansas, issued on the last day of January 1862.* (9) This was an appeal for prompt defenders of the state, a call to organized military companies to report for duty, and to other citizens to enlist: "Counsel and persuade the young men of your neighborhood, your county, to go and never, never wait to be drafted." This document was signed, "Henry M. Rector, Governor and ex-officio President Military Board, by the Governor, John I. Stirman, Secretary of State." John Irving Stirman might well have been proud to affix his signature to such a masterpiece of rhetoric and patriotic content.

Doctor Stirman frequently was a delegate to political conventions. He was at Baltimore in 1860 when the Democrats nominated Vice-President John Cabell Breckinridge for President.

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Quite recently a short street in the extreme southern part of the city of Fayetteville has been designated "Stirman Avenue" in belated recognition of an important pioneer clan of Washington County.

* (9) War of the Rebellion Official Records, Series I, Vol. LIII, pp. 775-779.

We Had Wild Meat the Year Round

When the Frisco railroad was built from the terminus in Iowa to Trenton, Mo., it cut father's farm in half. One half was bottom land, the other on the ridge where the buildings and orchards were located. We could stand in our orchard and view the whole panorama from the river woods to the railroad to the dividing line.

One day we saw three deer coming up from the south fleeing for their lives. We thought that when they hit the pasture fence they would turn summersault, but no, they all leaped the fence at the same moment without touching it. They ran across the pasture and leaped the north fence in the same manner. We watched till they were out of sight. It looked as if they were trained for the race.

While talking of deer -- my brothers were out hunting and found two bucks with locked horns and both dead. The boys cut the horns off, still locked together, and brought them home. The horns were kept by the Lewis family for years.

For other wild game we had the wild turkeys, prairie chicken, quail, squirrels and rabbits. All game was trapped. Father would never allow the boys to shoot in a flock. He argued the birds would leave and never come back. They would build a square pen of poles always getting smaller till they reached the top, leaving about a four-foot opening. They would strew several ears of corn, then leave it several days. When they returned they usually found several captives. They could fly down but couldn't fly out. The boys would bring home several gobblers, enough for Thanksgiving and Christmas and sometimes for a wedding.

Prairie Chickens were the most beautiful birds on the wing. They could fly as swift as the wind and as straight as an arrow. They were trapped in different ways. My brother John would set steel traps in old strawstacks where they would come to scratch. He always wanted me to go with him when he visited his traps. One time he had a chicken in the trap. He took it out and gave it to me to hold while he reset the trap. I had it by the legs and put it on top of my head and said, "Look what a pretty feather hat I have." But I somehow loosened my fingers and my cap flew away. Didn't I feel funny?

Yes, in the old days we had wild meat the year round.

Mrs. George Bement, age 92,
Springdale, Arkansas

Carselowey Heads Mayes County Society

We have just learned that the Mayes County Historical Society has been organized in Oklahoma, with James M. Carselowey as president. Mr. Carselowey has held membership in our WCHS for some time. He is a descendant of Capt. Jasper Dawson CSA who lived in Huntsville, Ark. before the Civil War. The parents of Capt. Dawson, the Robert Dawsons, settled 3 miles southeast of Berryville, Carroll County, in 1832. Other relations were the Rogers and the Buffingtons who came to Crawford County, Ark., in 1818, and the Ivy and Edwards families who lived in Huntsville before the war.

Mr. Carselowey has done considerable research and writing in Cherokee history and we plan to publish some of his material, connected with Washington County history, in the next issue of FLASHBACK.

Female Seminary in 1850 Census Records

Mrs. Elsa Vaught has discovered in the Census of 1850, Town of Fayetteville, the names of two teachers and 13 pupils of the Fayetteville Female Seminary, all of whom were evidently living in the Seminary dormitory at the time. They are:

Sophia Sawyer, 58, house worth \$2,000, born Mass.

Lucretia Foster, 20, teacher

Susan Wheeler, 16	Caroline Evans, 20, born Arkansas
Othelia Kidd, 15, born Virginia	Tuvella Evans, 12, born Arkansas
Sarah Perkins, 16, born Tennessee	Angelina Little, 16, born Arkansas
Mary Stout, 16, born Tennessee	Mary A. Brown, 15, born Arkansas
Amanda Bostick, 16, born Arkansas	Mary C. Smith, 14, born Arkansas
Esther Boatright, 14, b. Arkansas	Maria Brown, 13, born Tennessee
Isabella Ferdinand, 13, born Arkansas	

Census Enumerator Got \$6 per 50 Names

In reading the microfilm of the 1830 census (the Fifth), we find this certification on several of the sparsely settled counties:

"I, Thos. P. Eskridge, one of the judges of the Superior Court for the Territory of Arkansas, assigned by law to hold the Circuit Court in the Third Judicial District in said Territory of which Washington County comprises a part, am satisfied that the county of Washington exceeds forty miles square and from the returns of the assistant marshall of said county the number of inhabitants does not exceed 3,000. I hereby approbate the allowance of six dollars for every fifty persons so enumerated and returned by him. Signed, Thos. P. Eskridge."

The Crawford County certificate reads almost the same and is signed by Benjamin Johnson for the Second Judicial Circuit. -- EV

Casualties in Battle of Prairie Grove

Alvin Seamster has obtained the note book of Capt. Wm. F. Patton of Co. F, 22nd Arkansas Volunteer Infantry, King's Regiment, CSA, in which he discovered the names of the Companys dead and wounded in the battle of Prairie Grove. The men were all from Benton County. The note book entry reads as follows:

Killed at the battle of Prairie Grove, Dec. 7th, 1862, 3rd Regiment, 4th Corps: John T. Ford, J. W. Hammack, John Clifton, J. W. Benbrook, T. J. Martin, Wm. Martin, Watt W. Duckworth, and J. W. Lee, died of a wound received in battle.

Wounded: J. T. Burns, Joseph Reddick.

Lost at the battle of Prairie Grove: 13 guns, cartridge boxes and belts.

A post-war entry in the Patton note book reads as follows:

Fayetteville, Arkansas
June 12th, 1865

Received of W. F. Patton, Capt.:

5 mules, 1 army wagon, 1 lead line, 1 beams chain, 2 breast chains, 6 halter chains, 1 wagon, saddle, 17 foot chain, 1 spreader, 2 single sets harness, 4 single sets lead harness.

W. A. Watson,
Clerk Quartermaster

History News Briefs

The first meeting of the 1957 WCHS Board was held Feb. 25 with Robert R. Logan, president, in charge. The following directors were present: Miss Grace Albright, Mrs. Mertye Bagby, Miss Rowena Gallaway, Miss Bernice Karnes, H.E. Buchanan, Tom Feathers, W.J. Lemke, Dr. Fount Richardson and L.W. Searcy. The president presented his program of work for the year and named chairmen for such activities as genealogy, membership, pilgrimages, scrapbook, publications, and awards. The business session was followed by a lively discussion on historical matters.

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Mr. and Mrs. Claude Wilson, WCHS members who live in Chelsea, Okla., were the honorees of a "birthday card shower" from our WCHS members. Mr. Wilson was 85 on March 16; Mrs. Wilson 84 on March 14. He is the son of John Phagan Wilson who was a member of the first class ever to receive college degrees in Arkansas -- the class of 1854 of old Arkansas College in Fayetteville.

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The Crawford County Historical Society was organized Feb. 21 in the courthouse at Van Buren. A constitution will be adopted and officers elected at the next meeting. Persons interested in charter membership are asked to write to Mrs. Hugh Park, Van Buren, who is acting secretary. F.P. Rose of the Benton County Historical Society and W.J. Lemke of our own Society attended the Crawford County meeting.

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FLASHBACK takes pleasure in congratulating the Prairie Grove folks whose devotion and hard work secured an appropriation of \$50,000 from the Arkansas legislature for the development of Battlefield Park. It is planned to acquire additional land and erect a Battle Museum when the money becomes available. The Battlefield Foundation sends out periodic "Reports", which can be obtained by writing to Fred McCuistion, director of activities, Prairie Grove, Ark.

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One of the few deeds pertaining to old Lovely County that have come to light is recorded in Pope County Deed Book A, pages 1 and 2. Mr. G. R. Turrentine of Russellville has given our Society a photostatic copy of this deed. We plan to publish it in an early issue of FLASHBACK. The deed, dated July 15, 1828, conveys a claim for 320 acres of land in Lovely County, from Joseph Mays and wife Lurtia to Johnathan Clark.

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Dr. Ted R. Worley, executive secretary of the Arkansas History Commission, Little Rock, has compiled and published a list of Arkansas newspapers that are available on microfilm. Washington County historians will be interested to know that the list includes Fayetteville's first newspaper, the Witness (10 issues of 1841); the Fayetteville Arkansian (March 5, 1859 to March 15, 1861); and Fayetteville Democrat (1896-1902). Of the 50 items listed, the University of Arkansas Library has 42. Oldest files on microfilm are those of the Arkansas Gazette, dating back to 1819.

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This is the last call for 1957 memberships. We print only enough copies of FLASHBACK to take care of our members. We cannot guarantee back numbers. So if you haven't paid your 1957 dues (\$3) and want to continue to receive this publication, it will be necessary that you mail your check to the secretary before April 10 when the next issue goes to press. We thank you for your past support and trust you will stay with us in 1957.